WEDNESDAY
February 14, 2024

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
20 Pages ₹ 6.00

THE HINDU

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Vol. 55 • No. 38

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SMOOTH START

Nagal hardly breaks a sweat in round one

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Lokayukta police register DA case against DKS

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Lokayukta police have registered a disproportionate assets (DA) case against Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar. This follows the Congress government withdrawing consent to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for the DA case against him on November 23, 2023, and referring the case to the Lokayukta police.

The CBI has challenged both orders of the State government – of withdrawal of consent and referring the case to the Lokayukta police – before the High Court of Karnataka and the petitions are pending.

Meanwhile, the Lokayukta police registered an FIR and have written to the CBI seeking the case file to be handed over to them.

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OPPORTUNITIES » PAGES 18 & 19

Centre rules out MSP law, offers talks with farmers

Farmers, police clash at Haryana-Punjab boundary; Delhi under tight security net; SKM urges PM to intervene and stop using force against farmers, asks splinter group to join strike on February 16

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

As the protests by farmers' groups escalated into a full-blown conflict with the security forces at various points on the Haryana-Punjab boundary on Tuesday, the Union government yet again made it clear that announcing a guaranteed minimum support price (MSP), the key demand of the farmers, will not be possible. The government, however, offered a third round of talks with the leaders of the groups.

The protests were led by the Samyukt Kisan Morcha - Non-Political (SKM-NP), a splinter group of the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha (KMM). The constituents of SKM urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and stop using force against the farmers and asked the SKM-NP to stop fighting separately and support the rural and industrial strike on February 16.

Chaos ensues: Police personnel fire tear gas at farmers protesting at Shambhu Barrier in Punjab on Tuesday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Union Agriculture Minister Arjun Munda and Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur asked the farmers to be vary of "disruptive elements" in their movement. Mr. Munda told the media that on a law for guaranteed MSP, the Centre had to look at all sides of it.

The Opposition jumped into the scene and the Congress said it would implement a guaranteed MSP if it came to power.

Farmers have been invited for yet another round of talks, which is likely to be held on Wednesday. The two rounds of discussions, led by Mr. Munda and Minister Piyush Goyal, had collapsed. "We will wait for the outcome of it [talks] and if it fails, farmers will breach the blockades and start marching to Delhi," said K.V. Biju, a senior leader of SKM-NP. He said more than 60 farmers were injured in the lathi charge and firing of rubber bullets and tear gas shells on them by the police.

Meanwhile, in anticipation of the march, boundaries of the capital remained heavily barricaded.

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CMR UNIVERSITY
Private University Estd in Karnataka State by Act No. 45 of 2013

CMR GROUP OF INSTITUTIONS

The Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Provost, Vice Chancellor, the Board of Governors, Board of Management, Academic Council, Deans and Directors of CMR University cordially invite you to the

8th Annual Convocation

On Wednesday, 14 February 2024 at 10:45 AM at DWANI Auditorium, CMRIT Campus, AECS Layout, ITPL Main Road, Bangalore-560037

Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot
Hon'ble Governor of Karnataka & The Visitor, CMR University has kindly consented to preside and confer the degrees

Padma Bhushan Prof. P. Balaram
Former Director, Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru will be the Chief Guest and deliver the Convocation Address

Dr. K. C. Ramamurthy, IPS (Retd.)
Former Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha
Chairman, CMR University & CMR Group of Institutions will be the Guest of Honour and award the Medals

Dr. Sabitha Ramamurthy
Chancellor, CMR University will award the Rank Certificates

Honoris Causa will be conferred on
Shri Tatwamasi Dixit
Renowned Vedic Scholar & Chairman, Family Business Research International Centre (FABRIC)

The event will be live streamed at www.cmr.edu.in/convocation

Shri Jayadeep K R Reddy, Pro Chancellor
Dr. Tristha Ramamurthy, Provost
Dr. H. B. Raghavendra, Vice Chancellor
Dr. N. V. Subba Reddy, Pro Vice Chancellor
Dr. Praveen R., Registrar
Dr. Anil Kumar B., Registrar (Evaluation)

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A BG-BGE

India-England Test series set for more fascinating cricket

With the honours even after two of the most absorbing Tests, the remaining three promise to provide riveting action going by the track record of the teams' skirmishes over close to a century

P.K. Ajith Kumar

The England dressing room at Chennai's M.A. Chidambaram Stadium had a surprise visitor shortly after the first Test of the 2008 series ended. India had pulled off a stunning chase of 387 on a fifth-day pitch.

After Virender Sehwag blasted a 68-ball 83 and added 117 for the first wicket with Gautam Gambhir, Sachin Tendulkar, with an unbeaten hundred, and Yuvraj Singh took India home. Then Tendulkar walked up to England's dressing room and thanked the players for coming back to India after the Mumbai terrorist attack.

Tendulkar's gesture

Steve Harmison was one of the players who were bowled over by Tendulkar's gesture. "Here was the greatest cricketer of our generation coming to our dressing room to thank us," the former quick said during a *talkSport* show.

Coming as it did after the terrible tragedy in Mumbai, the win in Chennai meant much for India as a country, more so with its favourite son making a hundred and hitting the winning shot. And that remains the biggest successful chase in a Test in India.

England was presented with a chance to break that record at Visakhapatnam last week, but India did not let it, as the host paid back for the defeat in the first Test at Hyderabad in style. The series is tied 1-1, with three matches remaining.

The tradition

The series has already produced some outstanding Test cricket – among the finest this country has seen for years – and there could be more. We haven't seen too many absorbing and even battles between bat and ball in recent times in India as we have at Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam.

Neither have we watched such exhibitions of pace bowling like the ones put up by Jasprit Bumrah and James Anderson in just the second Test alone. The series has already given us two epic, match-winning hundreds, by Ollie Pope (196) and Yashasvi Jaiswal (209).

The Tests between India and England have always produced some fascinating cricket, right from the first ever Test between the two countries. In 1932 at Lord's, India, playing its maiden Test, had England in trouble at 19 for three, and it would take two fine innings from captain Douglas Jardine, who would, later that year, achieve infamy with the Bodyline series in Australia, to lead the host to a 158-run victory. India's pace trio of Mohammed Nisar, Amar Singh and Jahangir Khan took 14 wickets among them.

India has gone on to play more Tests against England than it has against any other team – 133, of which it has won 32.

K.R. DEEPAK

Many of those Tests have given Indian cricket some of its most memorable moments, like Sunil Gavaskar's 221 at the Oval in 1979, which took India so close to chasing down a target of 438, Dilip Vengsarkar's three successive hundreds at Lord's, Sachin Tendulkar's maiden Test century at the age of 17, Mohammad Azharuddin's three consecutive hundreds from his Test debut at home and then his two back-to-back hundreds of exquisite beauty in England, Sourav Ganguly and Rahul Dravid's impressive debuts in the same Test at Lord's, Kapil Dev hitting Eddie Hemmings for four sixes in a row when 24 were needed to avoid the follow-on and nine wickets were down.

You wonder what Rajkot, Ranchi and Dharamshala have in store.

> Here was the greatest cricketer of our generation coming to our dressing room to thank us
>
> **STEVE HARMISON**
> Former England fast bowler, referring to Tendulkar

Vaughan. GETTY IMAGES

Vaughan calls Australia's Test side 'Dad's Army'

Press Trust of India
LONDON

Former captain Michael Vaughan feels Australia looked jaded in the recent home Test series against the West Indies and said England stand a great chance in next year's Ashes if a "Dad's Army" is fielded by their arch-rivals.

Vaughan said most of the players in the current Australian Test side are ageing and the need of the hour is to infuse fresh talent in order to continue dominating world cricket.

"There was not much optimism in Australia that it would be a great Test summer because the two touring teams, Pakistan and West Indies, had poor recent records Down Under. But it was actually very competitive, as proved by the Windies pulling off that stunning win at the Gabba," Vaughan wrote in a column for *The Telegraph*.

"I could see Australia being quite a jaded team by then. David Warner has become the first of that set of great players to retire, and the rest are in their thirties now, so the age profile is a concern for them.

"Time passes and minds start to turn to what comes next in life. This group of players has won everything going, so what motivates them? I know well from experience after 2005 how quickly things can unravel when a Dad's Army team plays in the Ashes. You can look over the hill very quickly," he added.

Vaughan said the unexpected loss in Brisbane at the hands of the West Indies has raised England's hopes in the Ashes next year.

"Australia remain a very good side. Pat Cummins is an outstanding leader and when they need a big session to turn a game, they usually find it.

"That was why I was staggered when they lost in Brisbane, and that game was a sign for me that England have a great opportunity in the Ashes in 2025/26," he wrote.

Vaughan feels apart from inducting fresh faces, Australia also need to rotate their bowling line-up.

'An embarrassment' — Brazil fails to qualify for Paris 2024 Olympics

Associated Press
SAO PAULO

Brazilian football fans were already in a funk after a year that saw a string of poor results, a coaching void and a political tug of war at the country's federation.

Things got even worse Sunday after Brazil failed to qualify for the Paris Olympics after a loss to arch-rival Argentina, meaning the two-time defending champion will not be part of the tournament this summer.

"It is sad, but it is more of an embarrassment," striker John Kennedy said after the 1-0 loss. "We should have wanted to win more than we did."

Brazil also failed to qualify for the 1992 and 2004 editions of the Olympic tournament, but those blips didn't coincide with a crisis for the senior national team. Brazil is only in sixth place in South American qualifying for the 2026 World Cup and its biggest star Neymar has been out with a serious knee injury since October.

Some fans and analysts had hoped 17-year-old striker Endrick – who is set to join Real Madrid this summer – would provide some cause for optimism by showcasing his talent during the Olympic qualifying tournament. And many supporters had been hoping to see Endrick and the 32-year-old Neymar play together on the Olympic team in Paris and lead Brazil to an unprecedented third straight gold medal.

But the Brazilian teenager scored only twice in seven matches in Olympic qualifying. Argentina's World Cup-winning midfielder Thiago Almada netted five.

The Olympic football tournament features mainly Under-23 players and does not carry nearly the same status as the World Cup or continental championships – such as the Copa America that starts in June – but missing out completely still stings the pride of many Brazilians.

Especially those who are viewing Endrick as the country's next big star, and had been expecting him to show that he could help lead the senior team's attack alongside Vinicius Jr. and Rodrygo at the Copa America.

Meanwhile, Brazil's senior team will return to action in March in friendlies against England and Spain amid serious concerns about its current form.

Last year, Brazil lost a home match in World Cup qualifying for the first time ever; 1-0 to Argentina at the Maracana Stadium in Rio de Janeiro. It also lost at Uruguay and Colombia in the South American round-robin competition after two poor performances.

AFP

New coach Dorival Júnior was only hired in January after the president of the Brazilian football confederation, Ednaldo Rodrigues, failed to fulfil his promise to bring in Madrid's Carlo Ancelotti. Previous coach Tite stepped down after Brazil lost in the quarterfinals of the 2022 World Cup, and the team had been led by Fernando Diniz on an interim basis last year.

The frustration of seeing Argentina win the World Cup in Qatar as well as the last Copa America has only added to the pressure facing Dorival as he takes up the job – even before Sunday's loss.

"Brazil wasted a full year in preparations because we waited for a top coach (Ancelotti) who had signed no contract with us," said former Brazil left-back Júnior. "We burned a promising coach, Fernando Diniz, just so he could be interim for a year. The time to fix all this for the next World Cup is very short."

Rodrigues, the confederation head, is also facing calls for his resignation. He was removed by a Rio de Janeiro court in December due to irregularities in his election but returned weeks later after a ruling from Brazil's top court. His full case is yet to be reviewed.

History, though, shows that missing out on the Olympics doesn't necessarily bode ill for the future.

The team that failed to qualify for the Barcelona Games in 1992 included Cafu, Márcio Santos and Roberto Carlos, who all went on to win the World Cup. And the squad that missed out on the Athens Games in 2004 included future stars Maicon, Diego and Robinho.

"They will have to prove this elimination is no different from those two," said 2002 World Cup winner Vampeta. "There's great players in this team, but they will be judged by whether they can drag the senior team out of the quagmire it is in now. It is an uphill battle to end this crisis."

BBMP awaits Cabinet nod for ₹150-cr. tender to spruce up Indira Canteens

The refurbished canteens will offer ragi mudde, bisi bele bath, bread and jam; BBMP had invited bids in December 2023

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

Bengalureans can soon relish ragi mudde in Indira canteens, as the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has finalised a tender for refurbishment of the government-run canteens with an improvised menu of dishes offered at subsidised prices. The BBMP is awaiting Cabinet approval for awarding the contract to the lowest bidder.

The BBMP had invited bids in December 2023. A BBMP official said the tender is valued at ₹150 crore. It had undergone scrutiny at multiple levels in the government.

The Indira Canteen off Uttarahalli road. Bengaluru has about 175 Indira Canteens, of which 163 are operational. FILE PHOTO

BBMP Special Commissioner (Health) Surlarkar Vikas Kishor told *The Hindu* that awarding the tender requires Cabinet approval because the value is about ₹150 crore. "We have sent the file to the Urban Development Department, which will forward the same to the Cabinet," he said.

Subsidy amount

BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Giri Nath explained that the government has to pay the subsidy amount to the BBMP, which will make the payment to the relevant vendors.

"Hence, the State Cabinet has to look into the tender details before giving clearance." He said that bids were invited in different packages, keeping various zones in mind. A BBMP official said the State government is expected to clear the tender, as it is keen on reviving the government-run eateries before the Lok Sabha elections. He said the the menu will include ragi mudde, bisi bele bath, and bread-jam.

Started in 2017 during the Congress's previous tenure, Indira Canteens had slowly become dysfunctional after the party lost power in 2019. Soon after returning to power in 2023, the Congress has been promising to revive them. Bengaluru has about 175 Indira Canteens, of which 163 are operational.

Water adalat to be held tomorrow

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

BWSSB will hold water adalat on Thursday between 9.30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to settle grievances on billing, delay in providing water supply and sanitary connections, and related issues.

It will be held in the following sub-divisions: North West 2: behind Sriram Deluxe Hotel, Peenya 2nd Stage; North West 4: Pipeline Road, Sunkadakatte; Central 1-2, Nethaji Road, Frazer Town; North East 2: 8th and 9th Cross, Central Street; North 1-2, No. 3, P and T Colony, R.T. Nagar; North 2-2; 3rd BEL Layout, Vidyaranyapura; South 1-2: Kodichikkanahalli, GLR Ground; South 2-2: Central Jail Road, Koodlu; South West 2: Dwarakanath Road, V.V. Puram; South West 5: 1st Floor, Banagiri Nagar, Banashankari 3rd Stage; East 1-3: Kadugodi STP, near White Field Railway Station; and East 2-3: Banjara Layout, Horamavu.

City residents prefer Mysuru, Nandi Hills on weekends: Uber

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Mysuru and Nandi Hills are the two most-preferred getaway destinations for residents of Bengaluru, according to Uber's annual 'Riding with Intercity' report released on Tuesday. Additionally, the Bengaluru-Kolar route has secured a position among the top three inter-city routes in India.

Bengalureans chose to visit Mysuru on weekends, according to an Uber annual report released on Tuesday. FILE PHOTO

Indians made the most of their weekends by taking to travel.

Most inter-city trips were booked on Saturdays, followed by Sundays and Fridays, signalling a clear trend highlighting weekend outstation travel.

The year 2023 saw the highest ever inter-city trips booked on the Uber platform.

According to the Uber report: "The rapid pace of development of the national and State highway network in India over the past few years has significantly reduced travel times, while also making road journeys more comfortable. These factors have resulted in a trend where more people have been opting to cover longer distances by road."

While residents of Mumbai loved visiting Pune and Nashik, those in Delhi frequented the historical architecture hotspots of Agra and Jaipur.

EAST COAST RAILWAY
SUPPLY OF MATERIALS
Tender No. 30245251, Dtd. 06.02.2024

NAME OF THE WORK: SUPPLY OF 4 PORT ROUTER AS PER RDSO SPECIFICATION: RDSO/SPN/TC/84/2008, REV. 0 WITH ACCESSORIES AS: 2 ON BOARD GE, 4 PORT SERIAL WAN INTERFACE CARD, 2E HWIC SLOTS, 1 ISM SLOTS, 256MB CF DEFAULT, 512MB RAM, IP BASE, 2 NOS. V35 CABLE, DTE MAKE TO SMART SERIAL 10 FEET LENGTH WITH REQUIRED CABLE & CONNECTION. MAKE: TECHROUTE/TSR-2900-20 ROUTER + 2X HIC-2TB MAKE: CISCO MODEL NO. ISR 4221/K9 OR SIMILAR, **INSPECTION BY:** TPI AGENCY, **QUANTITY:** 41 NOS.

Note: Material to be supplied within 60 days.

Date and time of opening of Tender: 07.03.2024 at 1500 Hrs.

Complete details available at : www.ireps.gov.in

Sr. Divisional Materials Manager/ Waltair
PR-1082/O/23-24

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule property from its owners: **(i) SMT.PARVATHAMMA** W/o late B.N.Hanumanthaiah, **(ii) SMT.LAKSHMAMMA** W/o late Muniyappa, **(iii) SMT.ANUSUYA** W/o late V.Narasimha and **(iv) SRI.B.V.MANJUNATH** S/o late Varadappa, all are residing at: Byatarayanapura, Mysore Road, Bangalore–560026.

Apart from the said owners, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property known as 'VIJAYA THEATER", bearing Municipal No.7, PID No.41-71-7, measuring East to West (222+182)/2 ft and North to South (115+136)/2 ft, situated at 1st Cross, Mysore Mission Road, Byatarayanapura, Bangalore and bounded on:

East by : Private property
West by : Drain
North by : Road
South by : Private property and Road

Sd/- **S.F. GOUTAM CHAND**
Advocate
GOUTAM ASSOCIATES
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560 004.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client **Smt.Sangeetha.S,W/o Gururaj.S.** hereby given the Notice to the Public that G.P.A dated 26.03.1976, registered as document No. 337 of Book-4, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Gandhinagar, Bangalore & G.P.A. dated 10.10.1979, registered as document No. 34 of Book-4, in the office of the Sub-Registrar Shivamogga, in respect of property No.146/2, Old No.146/A, II Cross, Surveyor Street, Basavanagudi, BBMP Khatha PID No.49-57-146/2, Ward No.49, have been lost at the time of travelling. All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said missing documents. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within **5 days** from this present.

Sd/-
D.V.Pavamana, Advocate
#20/1,(36), "Betta Chambers" 1st Floor,
V Main IV cross, Chamrajpet, Bangalore-18.

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client **MR.KARTHIK GOVINDRAJ KANNAN** and **MR.RAJESH KANNAN** both sons of Mr.G.Kannan are intending to purchase the schedule property mentioned hereunder from **MR.D.HARRY ROYAL S/o. Mr.Arokia Dass;** any person/s objecting for the proposed purchase or are having any right, title, interest or any type of claim over the scheduled property is hereby called upon to file their objections/claims what so ever along with documentary proof on or before **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice with the under mentioned advocate failing which; our clients shall proceed and complete the sale transaction with the above stated person.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the Residential Property bearing Old PID No.86-35-15/5, present Dhakle No.1673132 Comprised in Property No.84/5, of Lingarajapuram, Presently situated at **3rd Cross, Jaibharathi Nagar**, Measuring East to West :10.805182 Meters, North to South: 10.728981 Meters, in all measuring 115.9286 Sq Mts, Presently under BBMP limits, Ward No.59, along with a residential house standing thereon, and bounded on the:

East by : Private Property; West by : Road; North by : Road; South by : Premises No.15/5-1;

C.K.V.K. LAW ASSOCIATES
Mr. VENKATESH CHANDRAN M.A., L.L.B.
Advocates & Legal Consultants
Bangalore-43. M: 9845846428, 9108784843

Govt. of Jharkhand
ROAD CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT
Road Divison , Seraikella-Kharsawan

Short-Term e-Procurement Notice

Tender Reference No. RCD/SERAIKELLA/13 Date :- 13.02.2024

1.	Name of the work	Strengthening, Widening/Re-construction Work of Hadibhanga (On Kandra to Chowka Main Road) - Dudang-Basvan-Dumra-Manoharpur-Mahatabera-Hudu-Kunamarcha-Janglikash-Hatnada upto Kalajhore Road (Including Construction of Bridges) (Total Length 18.90 Km.) for the year 2023-24
2.	Estimated Cost (Rs.)	**Rs. 49,50,83,000.00 (Rupees Forty nine Crore Fifty lakh Eighty Three thousand only)**
3.	Time of Completion	15 (Fifteen) months
4.	Last Date /Time for receipt of bids	01.03.2024 (12.00 Noon)
5.	Date of Publication of Tender on website	17.02.2024 (10.30AM)
6.	Date and Place of Pre-bid Meeting	20.02.2024 (11:30 A.M.) Office of the Chief Engineer (C), Road Construction Department, Jharkhand, First Floor, Engineers Hostel No.-02, Dhurwa, Ranchi
7.	Name & Address of office Inviting tender	Ganesh Ram Hembrom, O/o Executive Engineer , Road Construction Department , Road Division , Seraikella-Kharsawan
8.	Contact no. of Procurement Officer	8809347906
9.	Helpline number of e-Procurement cell	0651-2401010

Further details can be seen on website http://jharkhand tenders.gov.in
1. प्राक्कलित एवं अग्रधन की राशि घट–बढ़ सकती है ।

Executive Engineer, RCD, Road Division, Seraikella-harsawan
PR 318909 Road(23-24)#D

PUBLIC NOTICE for claim against sale of property

NOTICE is hereby given that Smt. Kalpana N the present Owner , who has purchased the property from B.K.Manoramma W/o late Krishnamurthy has agreed to sell us, the residential Vacant Site at No-03, situated at Malathahalli carved out of Sy.No.96 of Mallathahalli Village, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, in the converted land measuring 1.00 Acre vide Conversion order dt: 09.01.2004 issued by Special deputy Commissioner Bangalore city District, Presently under BBMP limits, Khatha No.277/96/3, Ward No 129 measuring East to West: 45.0 ft., North to South : Eastern side 73.05 ft. Western side 72.0 ft., totally measuring 3273.75 sqft, free from all encumbrances. Any person having any right, title, interest, claim or demand of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said site, is hereby required to make the same known in writing along with the documentary proof thereof, to the undersigned at Bharath Kumar C, 128, 1st D main, 12th Cross, MTS Layout, KSTown, Bangalore – 560060 within Seven days from the date of publication hereof, failing which the negotiations shall be completed, without any reference to such claims and the claims if any, shall be deemed to have been given up or waived.

Sd/-
Bharath Kumar C
Ph: 9535293838 / 8722666341
Place: Bangalore
Date: 14-02-2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that My client is intending to purchase the below mentioned Schedule Property from its owner **Sri. CHANDRAYANA VASUDEVA RAO S/o Late. Madhav Rao.** If anybody is having any objection, claim, interest, dispute for the above intended sale transaction, he/she/they may contact the undersigned with the documentary proof substantiating his/her/their objections/ claims/ details of dispute/s within **seven (10) days** from the date of this publication, failing which my client will proceed to complete the sale transaction with the above owner as if there are no third party claims/ objections/ disputes in respect of the Schedule Property and thereafter no claims/objections/dispute will be entertained.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential composite immovable property bearing **Site No.16,** Khata No. 2638, situated in **Nagarabhavi Village, Coconut Garden, Yeshwanthpur Hobli, Bengaluru North Taluk** falling within the Ward No.128 of BBMP, totally measuring **1,350 Square Feet,** within the revenue administrative jurisdiction of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike and including all rights, privileges and appurtenances thereto and bounded as follows: **East by: Road, West by : DRAIN, North by: Site No. 17 & South by : Site No. 15.**

RAVISHANKAR
ADVOCATE,
No.42/1, Appu Rao Road,
Chamarajpet, Bangalore -560018

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASTRA
Public Works Division chatrapati sambhajinagar
E-Tender Notice No. 264 OF 2023-2024

E-Tender for the following works in **"B-1/ Form"** for the (02) Works is invited via online E Tendering system from Contractor/Agency/ Firm/Company of Eligible Class by Executive Engineer Public Works Division Aurangabad (PH No.0240-2331174) on behalf of Public Works Department of Government of Maharashtra.

All details can be viewed and downloaded online directly from the Government of Maharashtra e-Tendering Portal **https://mahatenders.gov.in** on sub Portal of public works Department also on **www.mahapwd.gov.in** portal as per online tender Schedules.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Public Works Division
Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar

DGIPR/2023-2024/8169

GOVERNMENT OF MAHARASHTRA
Executive Engineer, North Mumbai Electrical Division,
P.W.D., ESIS Hospital Compound, L.B.S. Road, Mulund (W), Mumbai-400080.
e-mail: elnorthmumbai.ee@mahapwd.gov.in Tel. No. 022-25601327
e-Tender Notice No.91/2023-24

Online percentage rate tenders in "B-1" form & Item rate Tender in B-2 Form are invited by the Executive Engineer, North Mumbai Electrical Division, Mulund, Mumbai for the following work from electrical contractors with valid electrical contractors licence issued by Government of Maharashtra having successfully completed similar type of works. listed below e-Tender document can be downloaded from the e-Tendering portal of P.W.D., Government of Maharashtra **http://mahatenders.gov.in**, The Chief Engineer (Electrical), P.W.D. Fort, Mumbai reserves right to accept or reject any tender. The conditional tender will not be accepted.

Name of Work:	Estimate Cost put to tender:
1) Est.No.OW/NMED/MESD/GKP/23860/2023-24.Providing additional Electrical Installation with necessary systems for proposed new Metropolitan Court building (G+ 12 upper floor) at Kannamvar Nagar Vikroli (E)Mumbai	Rs.144990578/-
2) Est No.OW/NMED/AESD/ADR/23475/2023-24. Providing additional Electrical Installation & allied necessary system for proposed new Family Court Building(B2+B1+G+9 Upp.flr) on CTS 629/1285 at BKC Bandra (East), Mumbai	Rs.177530766/-

Document Download/ Sale Period: Date: 12.02.2024 to 27.02.2024 up to 17.30 Hrs.
(As per PWD, Mantralaya, Mumbai, GR No. Mise 2022/P.No. 104/1ma-2 dt. 07.08.2023)
Pre-bid via Video Conference: Date: 20.02.2024 @ 14.30 Hrs in the office of the Chief Engineer (Electrical), P. W. D., 3rd Floor, Bandhkam Bhavan, 25, Marzaban Road, Fort, Mumbai-400001.
Bid Opening Date: 29.02.2024 after 11.30 Hrs.

All information about e-Tender is available on following website.
1. http://mahatenders.gov.in
   (If there will be change in e-Tender Notice, it will be informed on above website)
2. Executive Engineer, North Mumbai Electrical Division, Mumbai for office Notice Board.
3. Criteria of post qualification is included in the work agreement.
4. Tenderer shall submit the hard copy of tender within 72 hours from the last date of submission of tender.
5. If found some problem in e-Tendering process only when open the hard copy of tender on Date: 29.02.2024

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
North Mumbai Electrical Division,
P.W.D., Mulund, Mumbai.

DGIPR/2023-2024/8173

JHARKHAND URBAN INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Jharkhand Undertaking)
JUIDCO Bhawan, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi-834001
E-Mailld - juidcolimited@gmail.com
CIN: U45200JH2013SGC001752

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION , (2nd Call)

QIT NO.: JUIDCO/EXTRA ITEMS/FLYOVER BAHUBAZAR-KOKAR/3550/ 2024- 589 DATE : 13.02.2024

1.	Name of the Work	Request for quotation for Providing, Supplying and Fixing in position true to line & level of Elastomeric Pad (20mm) for Seismic Arrestor/Stopper in the under construction Flyover from Yogoda Satsang Ashram, Bahubazar to Shantinagar, Kokar in Ranchi, Jharkhand. *(including all cost, carriage & taxes for complete job)*
2.	Availability of Quotation	Online juidco.jharkhand.gov.in under the Tender Section from 15.02.2024
3.	Mode of submission of Quotation	Offline (Through Post/By Hand in the office of JUIDCO Ltd. (JUIDCO Building ,Line Tank Road, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi 834001)
4.	Start Date of Quotation Submission	15.02.2024 from 10:00 Hrs
5.	Last Date of Quotation Submission	21.02.2024 up to 17:00 Hrs
6.	Date/Time of Quotation Opening	21.02.2024 at 17:30 Hrs.
7.	Quotation Submission Address	Jharkhand Urban Infrastructure Development Company Ltd, JUIDCO Building ,Line Tank Road, Kutchery Chowk, Ranchi 834001
8.	Helpline no	+91 651 2225878/+91 9097114840

Note:- Please visit the official website of JUIDCO Ltd. (juidco.jharkhand.gov.in) for detailed item specification, relevant drawings and other requirement pertaining to the Elastomeric Pads.

Sd/-
Project Director (Technical)
JUIDCO Ltd.

PR 318937 Urban Development(23-24)#D

INSTITUTE OF LIVER & BILIARY SCIENCES (ILBS)

"CAREER OPPORTUNITIES"
Faculty & Non Faculty posts
(ILBS/Careers/1/24)

Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS) is an autonomous super- specialty Institute of excellence under GNCT of Delhi and a Deemed-to- be-University by the GOI. Its vision is to be a global leader by becoming a beacon of patient care, teaching and research in the field of Liver, Pancreatobiliary, Renal, Oncology and Organ Transplantation. All appointments shall be on "contract basis" and will initially be for a period of "four years" (except for Residents) and can be extended based on performance. In its search for the best talent, ILBS invites applications for the following positions including backlog:

(A) SPECIAL DRIVE FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES * Backlog

S. No.	Name of Post	Number of Posts
1.	Senior Resident (Radiology-01, Hepatology -01)	2*- OH
2.	Junior Resident	2* - OH
3.	Resident Medical Officer	1* - OH
4.	Assistant Manager Nurse	1*- OH
5.	Junior Nurse	4*- OH
6.	Executive Nurse	9*- OH
7.	Jr. Executive Nurse	6*- OH

(B) APPLICATIONS INVITED FOR UR, OBC, EWS, SC & ST CATEGORY

8.	Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
9.	Professor (Radiology)	1-UR
10.	Additional Professor (Radiology)	1-UR
11.	Additional Professor (Anaesthesia)	1-UR
12.	Additional Professor (Critical or Intensive care Medicine)	1-UR
13.	Additional Professor (Hepatology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
14.	Additional Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
15.	Additional Professor (Microbiology)	1-UR
16.	Associate Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
17.	Associate Professor (Cardiology)	1-UR
18.	Associate Professor (Radiology)	1-UR
19.	Associate Professor (Renal Transplant)	1-UR
20.	Associate Professor (Metabolic Medicine)	1-UR
21.	Associate Professor (Hepatology)	1-UR
22.	Associate Professor (Molecular & Cellular Medicine)	2-UR
23.	Assistant Professor (Hepatology)	2-UR, 1-OBC, 1-SC
24.	Assistant Professor (Medical Oncology)	1-UR
25.	Assistant Professor (Cardiology)	1-UR
26.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Nutrition) Medical	1-UR
27.	Assistant Professor (Clinical Genetics)	1-UR
28.	Assistant Professor (Radiology)	1-UR
29.	Assistant Professor (Medicine)	1-UR
30.	Assistant Professor (Nuclear Medicine)	1-UR
31.	Consultant (Medical Oncology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
32.	Consultant (Nephrology) Grade IV	1-UR
33.	Consultant (Radiology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
34.	Consultant (Neurology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
35.	Consultant (Liver Transplant Surgery) Grade II	1-UR
36.	Consultant (Renal Transplant) Grade III, IV	2-UR
37.	Consultant (Cardiology) Grade III, IV	2-UR
38.	Sr. Resident (Hepatology, Nephrology, Radiology, Medical Oncology, Pulmonary Medicine, Neurology)	8-UR, 5-OBC, 2-SC, 1-ST
39.	Sr. Fellow (Non Medical) Virology	1-UR
40.	Resident Medical Officer	3-UR, 1-OBC,1-SC,1*-ST
41.	Manager (Nursing)	1-UR
42.	Manager (Operations)	2-UR
43.	Manager (Fire Safety)	1-UR
44.	Manager (Purchase)	1-UR
45.	Manager (Administration)	1-UR
46.	Dy. Manager (Hospitality)	1-UR
47.	Assistant Registrar	1-UR
48.	Sr. Technical Executive (Lab & Blood Bank)	2-UR
49.	Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
50.	Technical Executive (Lab & Blood Bank)	2-UR, 1*-EWS, 1-SC, 2*-OBC
51.	Technical Executive (Radiology)	1-UR, 1-OBC
52.	Jr. Technical Executive (Hepatology)	1-UR
53.	Jr. Engineer (Electrical/AC)	3-UR, 1-OBC
54.	Personal Secretary	1-UR
55.	Sr. Executive (General)	1-UR, 1-SC
56.	Executive Nurse	31-OBC (backlog), 10-EWS (backlog)
57.	Resident Hospital Administrator	3-UR, 3*-OBC, 1-SC,1*-EWS
58.	Jr. Executive Nurse	20-UR, 13*-OBC, 4*-EWS

* including backlog

Last Date: 12th March, 2024. For further details, eligibility criteria and recruitment rules please visit **http://www.ilbs.in**

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The untapped potential of stem cells in menstrual blood

The endometrium has a remarkable capacity to regrow itself each month. It provides a site for an embryo to implant during pregnancy and is shed during menstruation. It undergoes roughly 400 rounds of shedding and regrowth before a woman reaches menopause

Sneha Khedkar

Roughly 20 years ago, a biologist named Caroline Gargett went in search of some remarkable cells in tissue that had been removed during hysterectomy surgeries. The cells came from the endometrium, which lines the inside of the uterus. When Dr. Gargett cultured the cells in a petri dish, they looked like round clumps surrounded by a clear, pink medium. But examining them with a microscope, she saw what she was looking for – two kinds of cells, one flat and roundish, the other elongated and tapered, with whisker-like protrusions.

Dr. Gargett strongly suspected that the cells were adult stem cells – rare, self-renewing cells, some of which can give rise to many different types of tissues. She and other researchers had long hypothesised that the endometrium contained stem cells, given its remarkable capacity to regrow itself each month. The tissue, which provides a site for an embryo to implant during pregnancy and is shed during menstruation, undergoes roughly 400 rounds of shedding and regrowth before a woman reaches menopause. But although scientists had isolated adult stem cells from many other regenerating tissues – including bone marrow, the heart, and muscle – "no one had identified adult stem cells in endometrium," Dr. Gargett says.

Several types of self-renewing cells

Such cells are highly valued for their potential to repair damaged tissue and treat diseases such as cancer and heart failure. But they exist in low numbers throughout the body, and can be tricky to obtain, requiring surgical biopsy, or extracting bone marrow with a needle. The prospect of a previously untapped source of adult stem cells was thrilling on its own, says Dr. Gargett. And it also raised the exciting possibility of a new approach to long-neglected women's health conditions such as endometriosis.

Before she could claim that the cells were truly stem cells, Dr. Gargett and her team at Monash University in Australia had to put them through a series of rigorous tests. First, they measured the cells' ability to proliferate and self-renew, and found that some of them could divide into about 100 cells within a week. They also showed that the cells could indeed differentiate into endometrial tissue, and identified certain tell-tale proteins that are present in other types of stem cells.

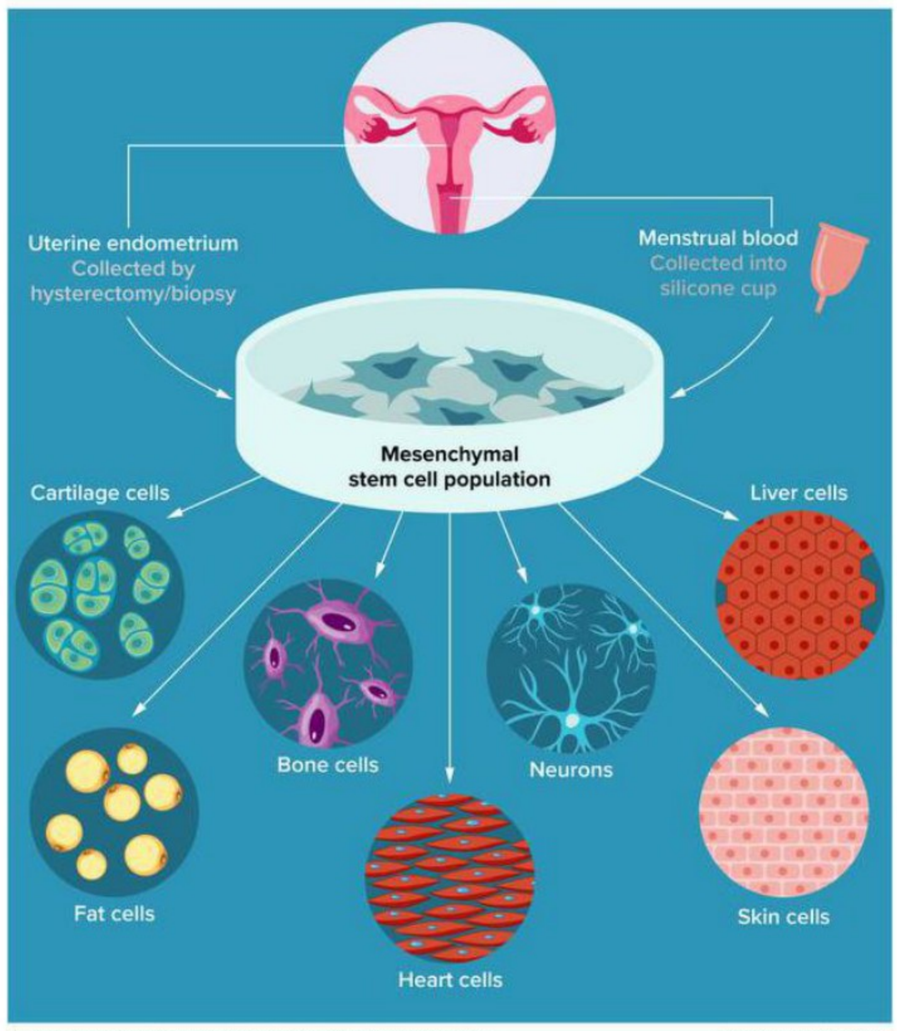
Dr. Gargett, who is now also with Australia's Hudson Institute of Medical Research, and her colleagues went on to characterise several types of self-renewing cells in the endometrium. But only the whiskered cells, called endometrial stromal mesenchymal stem cells, were truly "multipotent," with the ability to be coaxed into becoming fat cells, bone cells, or even the smooth muscle cells found in organs such as the heart.

Special stem cells

Around the same time, two independent research teams made another surprising discovery: Some endometrial stromal mesenchymal stem cells could be found in menstrual blood. Dr. Gargett was surprised that the body would so readily shed its precious stem cells. Since they are so important for the survival and function of organs, she didn't think the body would "waste" them by shedding them. But she immediately recognised the finding's significance: Rather than relying on an invasive surgical biopsy to obtain the elusive stem cells she'd identified in the endometrium, she could collect them via menstrual cup.

More detailed studies of the endometrium have since helped to explain how a subset of these precious endometrial stem cells – dubbed menstrual stem cells – end up in menstrual blood. The endometrium has a deeper basal layer that remains intact, and an upper functional layer that sloughs off during menstruation. During a single menstrual cycle, the endometrium thickens as it prepares to nourish a fertilised egg, then shrinks as the upper layer sloughs away.

Dr. Gargett's team has shown that these special stem cells are present in both the lower and upper layers of the endometrium. The cells are typically wrapped around blood vessels in a crescent shape, where they are thought to help stimulate vessel formation and play a vital role in repairing and regenerating the upper layer of tissue that gets shed each month during menstruation. This layer is crucial to pregnancy, providing support and nourishment for a developing embryo. The layer, and the endometrial stem cells that prod its growth, also appears to play an important role in infertility: An embryo can't implant if the layer doesn't thicken enough.



Stem cells from the endometrium can be collected through a biopsy or in menstrual blood. Under the right conditions, they can differentiate into cell types including neurons and cartilage, fat, bone, heart, liver and skin cells.

Testing for endometriosis

Endometrial stem cells have also been linked to endometriosis, a painful condition that affects roughly 190 million women and girls worldwide. Although much about the condition isn't fully understood, researchers hypothesise that one contributor is the backflow of menstrual blood into a woman's fallopian tubes, the ducts that carry the egg from the ovaries into the uterus. This backward flow takes the blood into the pelvic cavity, a funnel-shaped space between the bones of the pelvis.

Endometrial stem cells that get deposited in these areas may cause endometrial-like tissue to grow outside of the uterus, leading to lesions that can cause excruciating pain, scarring and, in many cases, infertility.

Researchers are still developing a reliable, non-invasive test to diagnose endometriosis, and patients wait an average of nearly seven years before receiving a diagnosis. But studies have shown that stem cells collected from the menstrual blood of women with endometriosis have different shapes and patterns of gene expression than cells from healthy women.

> Despite the relative convenience of collecting adult multipotent stem cells from menstrual blood, research exploring and utilising the stem cells' power still represents a tiny fraction of stem cell research

Several labs are working on ways to use these differences in menstrual stem cells to identify women at higher risk of the condition, which could lead to faster diagnosis and treatment. Menstrual stem cells may also have therapeutic applications. Some researchers working on mice, for example, have found that injecting menstrual stem cells into the rodents' blood can repair the damaged endometrium and improve fertility.

Beyond gynaecological diseases

Other research in lab animals suggests that menstrual stem cells could have therapeutic potential beyond gynaecological diseases.

In a couple of studies, for example, injecting menstrual stem cells into diabetic mice stimulated regeneration of insulin-producing cells and improved blood sugar levels. In another, treating injuries with stem cells or their secretions helped heal wounds in mice.

A handful of small but promising clinical trials have found that menstrual stem cells can be transplanted into humans without adverse side effects. Dr. Gargett's team is also attempting to develop human therapies. She and her colleagues are using endometrial stem cells – those taken directly from endometrial tissue, rather than menstrual blood – to engineer a mesh to treat pelvic organ prolapse, a common, painful condition in which the bladder, rectum or uterus slips into the vagina due to weak or injured muscles.

The condition is often caused by childbirth. Existing treatments use synthetic meshes to reinforce and support weak pelvic tissues. But adverse immune reactions to these materials have led these meshes to be withdrawn from the market. Dr. Gargett's research – so far conducted only in animal models – suggests that using a patient's own endometrial stem cells to coat biodegradable meshes could yield better results.

Misogyny and cultural taboos

Despite the relative convenience of collecting adult multipotent stem cells from menstrual blood, research exploring and utilising the stem cells' power – and their potential role in disease – still represents a tiny fraction of stem cell research, says Daniela Tonelli Manica, an anthropologist at Brazil's State University of Campinas.

As of 2020, she found, menstrual stem cell research accounted for only 0.25% of all mesenchymal cell research, while bone marrow stem cells represented 47.7%.

Dr. Manica attributes the slow adoption of menstrual stem cells in part to misogynistic ideas that uteruses are outside the norm, and to reactions of disgust.

"There's certainly something of an 'ick factor' associated with menstrual blood," agrees Victoria Male, a reproductive immunologist at Imperial College London who coauthored an article about uterine immune cells in the 2023 *Annual Review of Immunology*.

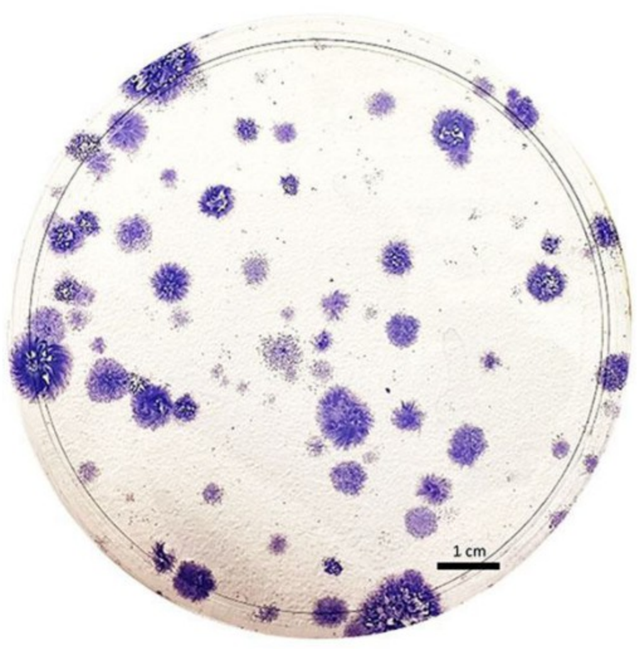
Cultural taboos surrounding menstruation – and a general lack of investment in women's health research – can make it difficult to get funding, says Dr. Gargett.

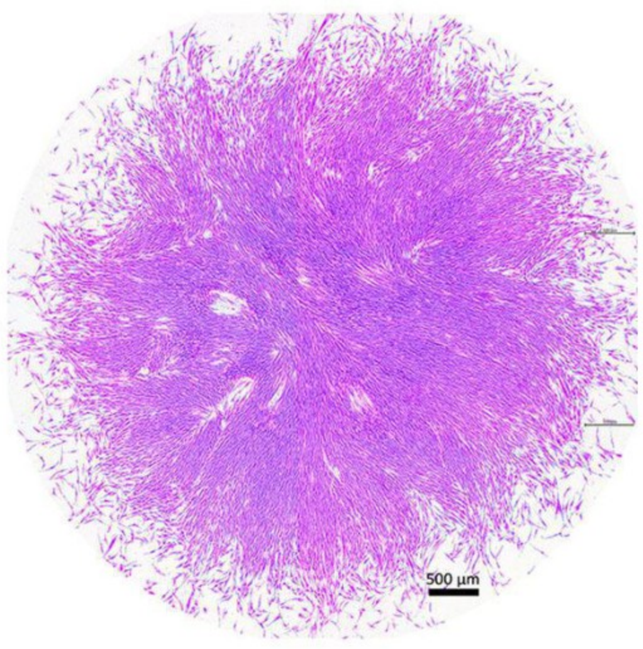
Immunologist Dr. Male has faced similar challenges – it was easier to obtain funding when she used to study immune cells in liver transplantation than it is now that she works on immune cells in the uterus, she says.

"If we want more research on menstrual fluid, we need more funding," says Dr. Male, noting that the logistics of collecting menstrual fluid over multiple days can be expensive.

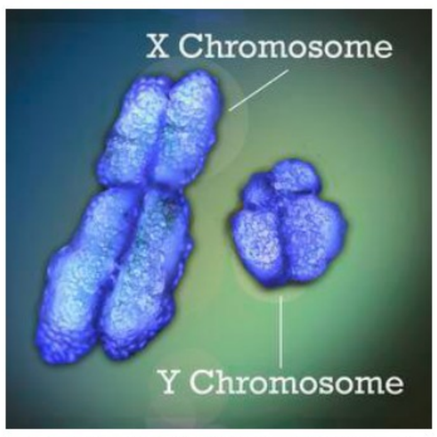
For that to happen, "we have to tackle sex and gender bias in research funding." Through more equitable investments, she and others hope, menstruation will be recognised as an exciting new frontier in regenerative medicine – not just a monthly inconvenience.

(Sneha Khedkar is a biologist-turned freelance science journalist based out of Bengaluru. This article is republished from Knowable Magazine.*)*





These purple blobs are clones of the stem cells that researcher identified in menstrual fluid. Each cluster began as a single cell. On the right, a close-up view of one blob, magnified at least 20x, reveals the tightly packed cells' spindled shapes. K. SCHWAB, C. TAN, AND C. GARGETT, THE RITCHIE CENTRE, HUNDSON INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MONASH UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNAECOLOGY, MELBOURNE.



A molecular coating that is found in half of the X chromosomes in women might be the reason behind auto-immune disease. AP

The role of X chromosome in auto-immune diseases

Arkatapa Basu

In recent times several international celebrities have spoken up about their diagnosis and subsequent struggles with autoimmune diseases. A majority of these celebrities are women. This bias is not just a fluke of nature but a reflection of a worldwide phenomenon. A 2023 study by the University of Oxford stated that about 10% of the population they had studied had autoimmune diseases of which 13% were women and 7% were men.

The higher susceptibility of women to autoimmune diseases has puzzled researchers for decades. Several factors can cause autoimmune disease such as environmental factors, genetics, hormonal imbalance and lifestyle habits. However, since women are more susceptible to these diseases, scientists previously thought that it could be related to sex hormones or faulty regulation of the X chromosome. Now, a group of scientists have found a molecular coating that is found in half of the X chromosomes in women might be the reason behind this phenomenon.

Human females (and most mammals) contain two X chromosomes while the males of of the species contain one X and one Y chromosome.

The molecular coating of the X chromosome is a combination of RNA and proteins and is crucial to a process called X-chromosome inactivation which ensures that one set of X chromosomes in

The molecular coating of the X chromosome is crucial to a process called X-chromosome inactivation which ensures that one set of X chromosomes in females remains active and functional in all the cells of the body while the other is muffled

females remains active and functional in all the cells of the body while the other is muffled.

How is this achieved? The chromosome is wrapped in long strands of RNA called XIST that attract proteins and tamp down the expression of the gene inside.

However, not all genes are muffled in this manner and the ones that escape the X inactivation process are thought to be the cause of autoimmune diseases. Not only this, the XIST molecule too has been known to elicit inflammatory immune responses.

Additionally, one of the co-authors, Howard Chnag noted that many of the proteins that are attracted to the XIST also induced the response of autoantibodies, a type of antibody that reacts with self-antigens.

To see if these autoantibodies attacking the XIST molecule were another reason for autoimmune diseases, Dr Chang, bioengineered male mice to produce a modified version of XIST which did muffle the gene expression but still retained the ability to form the RNA and proteins that covered the gene.

They found that when a lupus-like disease was introduced in the mice, the ones that expressed XIST had higher levels of autoantibody levels than the ones that didn't. Their immune cells were also on higher alert which suggests a proneness to autoimmune attacks.

Since XIST is expressed only in cells with two X chromosomes, women are more susceptible to autoimmune diseases and attacks. Further studies in this field would help in determining exactly which XIST-related antigens contribute to sex-biased immunity resulting in expedited detection and diagnosis, the authors noted.

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DR. H.C. MAHADEVAPPA, Hon'ble Minister for Social Welfare Department addressing the meeting

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Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

Number of children who went missing in Assam in three years

3,700 Over 3,400 of the children were rescued by different agencies, Women and Child Development Minister Ajanta Neog said. She also said that 6,054 cases were registered under POCSO from 2012 to 2023. PTI

The rise in India's coal imports during December

27 in percentage. India registered a rise to 23.35 million tonne (MT) in December, over the corresponding month of the previous fiscal. India's coal import was 18.35 MT in the corresponding month of the previous fiscal. PTI

Children fighting with armed units in Central African Republic

10,000 While 15,000 minors have escaped from rebel forces, children are still recruited as fighters, spies, cooks and even used as sex slaves, the Minister for family and gender said. PTI

The aid passed by the U.S. for Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan

95.3 in $ billion. The U.S. Senate passed the aid package for Ukraine, Israel and Taiwan, pushing ahead after months of difficult negotiations amid growing divisions in the Republican Party over the role of the U.S abroad. AP

Number of candidates to score a 100 in JEE-Main first edition

23 Over 11.70 lakh candidates appeared for the engineering entrance exam JEE-Main, the National Testing Agency informed. Seven of the 23 candidates who had a perfect score are from Telangana. PTI

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On the rights of forest-dwellers

Why has the notification of the Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary in the Erode district of Tamil Nadu left forest-dwellers wary? How should national parks and sanctuaries be notified? What was the 'historical injustice' the Forest Rights Act was supposed to rectify?

EXPLAINER

C.R. Bijoy

The story so far:
Earlier this month, the notification of the Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary in Erode district of Tamil Nadu triggered consternation among forest-dwellers around it. They expressed fear that this is a prelude to their rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 (FRA) being denied. They have accused the district and State administrations of violating relevant laws. The Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary is constituted from the North and South Bargur, Thamarai Karai, Ennamangalam, and Nagalur reserved forests in Anthiyur Taluk. It is located between the Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve of Tamil Nadu, the Male Mahadeshwara Wildlife Sanctuary and the Cauvery Wildlife Sanctuary of Karnataka. Six tribal forest villages – denied basic rights and facilities because these are not revenue villages – have been excluded from the sanctuary. These settlements are confined to an arbitrary area of 3.42 sq. km.

What are forest villages?
In 1990, the Union Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) had ordered that all forest villages be converted to revenue villages. The FRA, enacted 18 years ago, also required all forest villages to be converted to revenue villages. During conversion, "the actual land use of the village in its entirety, including lands required for current or future community uses, like schools, health facilities and public spaces," were to be recorded as part of the revenue village. These rights continue to be denied to date. Strangely, 21 roads 147.1 km long have also been excluded from the notification, as if such exclusion is required for them to remain in use. This is not so by law.

As of 2016, Tamil Nadu had 736 forest villages with a population of 23,125 on record. Of them, 7,764 were from Scheduled Tribe (ST) communities. The corresponding all-India figures are 4,526 forest villages with a population of 22 lakh, with 13.3 lakh from ST communities. There are more unrecorded forest habitations.

The notification that created the sanctuary concedes that the rights admitted under the Tamil Nadu Forest Act 1882 – a time when forests were reserved – and those conferred under the FRA "shall remain and continue to be enjoyed by the persons concerned". The issue here is that Tamil Nadu has been one of the most laggard States in implementing the FRA in the country.

What are the rights in the new Sanctuary?
Cattle-grazers can no longer graze in the Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary. Bargur cattle, a traditional breed native to the Bargur forest hills, may now be prevented from accessing their traditional grazing grounds. In March 2022, the Madras High Court revised an older order imposing a total ban on cattle grazing in all the forests of Tamil Nadu and restricted the ban to national parks, sanctuaries, and tiger reserves. Tamil Nadu is the only State in the country where there is such a ban. This order is despite the FRA, which, aside from other community rights, recognised "grazing (both settled or transhumant) and traditional seasonal resource access of nomadic or pastoralist communities" in all forests, including in national parks, sanctuaries, and tiger reserves. Grazing rights are community rights of the habitation-level villages and are to be regulated by their gram sabhas.

Of Tamil Nadu's land, 26,419 sq. km or 20.3% is under notified forests. The recorded forest area is a bit higher, around 23.7%. Some 6% of the State is under Protected Areas, with five national parks and 34 sanctuaries (half of which are bird sanctuaries). The State has constituted five tiger reserves in these Protected Areas. The 801-sq.-km Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary joins them now.

What does the WLP Act 1972 provide?
Sanctuaries and national parks are notified under the Wildlife (Protection) Act (WLPA) 1972. People inside sanctuaries continue to enjoy all their rights unless prohibited, but they don't in National Parks. No new rights are permitted once the notice of intent is issued. The Collector is to inquire into the rights of all persons, their nature and extent, in the proposed sanctuary or national park. Then, the Collector's office has to decide whether to admit the claims in sanctuaries and to acquire all rights in national parks. The law mandates similar procedures when some land is initially notified as forest. But governments have not followed them.

While courts routinely condone these violations, they have become entrenched within the forest department since the start of the colonial era, with the forest bureaucracy inheriting the same tendencies. In addition, the Indian Forest Act 1927 and its clones, such as the Tamil Nadu Forest Act 1882, the WLPA, the Forest (Conservation) Act 1980, and the Compensatory Afforestation Fund Act 2016 are all erected on this colonial edifice.

How was the Forest Rights Act established?
A dam of anger ruptured around the nation after the MoEF misinterpreted a Supreme Court order and, in May 2002, required States "to evict ineligible encroachers and all post-1980 encroachers from forest lands in a time-bound manner". In 2004, the MoEF acknowledged in an affidavit to the Supreme Court in *Godavarman versus Union of India* that "the historical injustice done to the tribal forest dwellers through non-recognition of their traditional rights must be finally rectified".

In 2006, the Indian government enacted the FRA to explicitly undo this "historical injustice" resulting from the inadequate recognition of "forest rights on ancestral lands and their habitat ... in the consolidation of State forests during the colonial period as well as in independent India". The FRA requires and authorises the gram sabhas to determine and recognise forest rights, and protect and preserve the forests, wildlife, and biodiversity within their customary and traditional boundaries, including inside Protected Areas. These responsibilities were earlier vested with the Forest Department.

How do FRA and WLPA compare?
Being a later law, the FRA overrides the WLPA. All provisions in the WLPA that contravene provisions in the FRA are null and void. As a result, when notifying a Protected Area under the WLPA, the government needs to determine rights under the FRA and acquire the consent of the gram sabhas.

The government specifically incorporated these requirements in a 2006 amendment vis-à-vis the notification of tiger reserves.

The FRA became operational when its Rules were notified in January 2008. Since then, until 2023, the country has acquired 15,605 sq. km of Protected Areas – nine national parks of 3,462 sq. km and 77 sanctuaries of 12,143 sq km – while disregarding the changed legal regime. Of these, Tamil Nadu's share has been 15 sanctuaries spanning 4,146.7 sq. km.

The FRA violations, in the case of Scheduled Tribes, are also crimes under the 2016 amendment to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

How has Tamil Nadu implemented the FRA?
According to the 2011 Census, there were 1,808 revenue villages in Tamil Nadu with numerous habitations in them accessing 15,826.9 sq. km of forests within revenue boundaries.

But as of September 2023, the State had recognised and issued individual titles to an extent of just 38.96 sq. km - a paltry coverage of 0.25%. Reportedly, the State has issued 531 community titles but the extent of the area thus titled remains a mystery.

Tamil Nadu is not an exception. The same pattern, more or less, runs across the country: the Environment Ministry and the forest bureaucracy continue to defy the laws, Parliament, and the will of the people, leaving forests, forest-dwellers, and wildlife in peril.

C.R. Bijoy examines natural resource conflicts and governance issues.

Rights denied: People fetch water from the tank at the Nellikadu habitation at Bargur hills in Erode district in Tamil Nadu in June 2023. FILE PHOTO

THE GIST

Earlier this month, the notification of the Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary in Erode district of Tamil Nadu triggered consternation among forest-dwellers around it. They expressed fear that this is a prelude to their rights under the Scheduled Tribes and Other Traditional Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Forest Rights) Act 2006 (FRA) being denied.

Cattle-grazers can no longer graze in the Thanthai Periyar Sanctuary. Bargur cattle, a traditional breed native to the Bargur forest hills, may now be prevented from accessing their traditional grazing grounds.

According to the 2011 Census, there were 1,808 revenue villages in Tamil Nadu with numerous habitations in them accessing 15,826.9 sq. km of forests within revenue boundaries.

INBRIEF

Vocal concert to be held today

Nadhajyothi Sangeetha Sabha Trust, as part of the 59th Nadajyothi Sangeetha Sambhrama and diamond jubilee celebration, will present a vocal concert by Ranjani Vasuki on Wednesday. She will be accompanied by Vishwajith Mathur on violin, K.K. Harinarayan on mrudanga, and N.S. Krishna Prasad on ghata. It will be held at Sri Rama Mandira, East Park Road, between 9th and 10th Cross, Malleswaram, at 6.30 p.m.

Conference on net zero carbon and digital transformation

Bengaluru City University will host an international conference "Dual transition of net zero carbon and digital transformation" on February 16 and 17 at Jnana Jyothi Auditorium. It is jointly organised by Bengaluru City University, and Birmingham City University, United Kingdom.

E-paper edition

The Hindu offers more coverage of Bengaluru in the e-paper edition. (epaper.thehindu.com)

In the issue dated February 14, we have a photo feature on red roses taking the centre stage at the International Flower Auction Bangalore with heaps of that "eternal symbol of love" being sold ahead of Valentine's Day.

Tankers cater to 25% of demand for water in Bengaluru: DKS

Proposed Mekedatu project is the only solution for tackling drinking water problem, says Dy. CM

IN THE ASSEMBLY

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar informed the Karnataka Legislative Assembly that tankers are catering to close to 25% of the demand for water in Bengaluru. Mr. Shivakumar also holds the Bengaluru Development portfolio.

Replying to a question by C.K. Ramamurthy of the BJP during question hour on Tuesday, Mr. Shivakumar said there has been a steady rise in the demand for water, as nearly 10 lakh people migrate to Bengaluru every year.

Deputy CM D.K. Shivakumar informed the Legislative Assembly that there has been a steady rise in the demand for water, as nearly 10 lakh people migrate to Bengaluru every year. FILE PHOTO

Tankers have been supplying water from borewells. However, it is the responsibility of the government to ensure supply of drinking water to residents of Bengaluru, he said. The proposed Mekedatu project, the building of a balancing reservoir across river Cauvery, is the only solution for tackling the drinking water problem of the burgeoning city of Bengaluru.

Water tariff has not been increased for 11 years. Increase in power tariff and other costs have led to an increase in the cost of supplying water to residents of Bengaluru, Mr. Shivakumar said.

He said that the government would prioritise irrigation and water management projects over other works such as building roads. Replying to questions on irrigation projects such as Yettinahole, Yagachi dam, Upper Bhadra and Upper Krishna Project in the Assembly, Mr. Shivakumar, said priority would be given for development of irrigation projects and filling up tanks. Other works such as roads would be taken up later and the issue has already been discussed with the Chief Minister.

PRR project requires ₹24,000 cr.; it will be turned into economic corridor, says Dy. CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday told the Legislative Assembly that the proposed Peripheral Ring Road (PRR) project in Bengaluru will be converted into an economic corridor and that the project would require an estimated ₹24,000 crore.

Responding to a call-attention notice tabled by BJP MLA Shailendra Beldale in the Assembly, Mr. Shivakumar said, "It has been 15 years since the project was proposed. Previous governments tried to begin the project. But they failed as no one came forward to bid for the tender. So now the plan is being changed and it will be rolled out under the PPP model. The tender for this project has been called and February 29 is the last day for tender submission. The project requires an area of 2,596 acres, of which only 220 acres is government land, and the rest is private land."

In Cabinet

"Even though there is a court order about compensation for this land, we have decided to discuss this issue in the State Cabinet and help farmers who are losing their land. I have assured the farmers that we will not de-notify this land again and we will implement the project. It is estimated that ₹24,000 crore is required for this project," Mr. Shivakumar said.

Footballer's death: Truck driver held

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The police have cracked the recent hit-and-run case wherein a State-level footballer, Monish K., 24, was killed.

The K.R. Puram traffic police tracked down the truck driver, Manjunath, 29, who fled the scene after he rammed into Monish's bike, killing him on January 21 and arrested him.

The upcoming footballer was riding his bike to his daily practice in the early morning hours when a speeding truck hit his bike near B. Channasandra skywalk on the Outer Ring Road. The truck driver fled from the scene, leaving a severely injured Monish behind. Though passers-by rushed Monish to a private hospital, he succumbed to his injuries later. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah had also mourned his death and issued directions to track down the accused at the earliest.

K.R. Puram Traffic Police, who took up the investigation, analysed footage from over 100 CCTV cameras between K.R. Puram and Devanahalli to zero in on the truck that was involved in the accident. From the number plate they caught in the footage, traffic police tracked down its driver Manjunath and arrested him.

Amogh Agrawal only student from State to score 100 percentile in JEE Main 2024 session 1

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Amogh Agrawal from Bengaluru has emerged the State topper with 100 percentile score in Joint Entrance Examination 2024 (JEE Main), session 1 for paper 1. He is a student of Narayana Co-Kaveri Bhavan, HSR Layout.

Amogh Agrawal

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Amogh said he was happy with the result. "I achieved it with encouragement from my teachers and parents. While preparing for the exam, I focused on taking mock examination. I am currently preparing for JEE Advanced to get admission in the top IITs in the country. I aim to be an entrepreneur like my father," he said.

The National Testing Agency (NTA) announced the result of JEE Main 2022, session-1 for the entrance of professional courses like BE/B.Tech in premier technical institutions like Indian Institute Technologies on Tuesday.

This year, 23 candidates secured 100 percentile. Seven students from Telangana secured 100 percentile. Following this, three students each from Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra secured 100 percentile.

The JEE Main 2024 session-1 for paper 1 (B.E./B.Tech.) was conducted by NTA from January 27 to February 1. A total of 11,70,048 candidates appeared for the examination, conducted at 544 centres in 291 cities, including 21 cities outside India.

Trial run of traffic control system aided by Japanese MODERATO tech begins

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Urban Land Transport (DULT) has initiated the trial run for a new traffic signalling system at the Kensington Road and Murphy Road junction near Ulsoor. The system incorporates Japanese MODERATO (Management of Origin-Destination-Related Adaptation for Traffic Optimisation) technology.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)-funded project is being implemented by DULT. The new traffic signals installed in the central business district (CBD) are expected to alleviate congestion on major roads by incorporating pedestrian crossings.

The new traffic signals installed in the CBD are expected to alleviate congestion on major roads. FILE PHOTO

"The signals at these two junctions have been temporarily activated for a week to verify installation and switching procedures. The actual testing of the signals will commence in the last week of February," a DULT official said.

The proposal to introduce these signals was put forth in 2014, but actual work commenced in July 2021. Despite the initial aim of completing the project by October 2022, various delays resulted in the project missing several deadlines.

Officials said that the Adaptive Signal Control Technology (ASCT) aims to tackle congestion problems and improve waiting time efficiency at intersections. Initially planned for 29 junctions, the project now encompasses 28, with the exclusion of one junction due to ongoing Namma Metro construction.

The key components of the ASCT include signal arms and aspects catering to both motorists and pedestrians. Additionally, the system incorporates an automatic traffic counter and classifier to measure vehicle movement, along with a queue-length measurement system at critical junctions to monitor the build-up of queues.

"An integral part of the project is the utilisation of a central control software, named MODERATO, which enables real-time optimisation of signal phasing and timings across all junctions," an official explained.

Pressing on

Thousands of ASHAs held a protest at Freedom Park seeking fulfilment of various demands. The protest was organised by the Karnataka Rajya Samyukta ASHA Karyakarteyara Sangha affiliated to the AIUTUC. Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao assured that ASHAs would get ₹7,000 remuneration every month and health insurance up to ₹5 lakh, and other facilities. However, they were unhappy with the assurances and said they would continue their protest. K. MURALI KUMAR

CCB officers seize hookah products worth ₹1.4 crore

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Officers of the Women Protection Wing of the Central Crime Branch carried out raids on three shops across the city and seized tobacco and nicotine products used in banned hookahs. The recoveries made were worth ₹1.4 crore.

Based on information about the banned products being sold, a team led by DCP (Crime) Abdul Ahad raided the shops in Chamarajapet, Ramamurthy Nagar, and Mahadevapura police station limits and arrested nine people involved in the illegal business. The accused were reportedly selling the banned items under the brands Afzal, Dilbagh, ZL-01, Badshah, and Maha Royal to customers as well as retailers across the city.

The CCB has stepped up the vigil and has been carrying out special drives and checks after the State government banned the sale, consumption, storage, advertisement, and promotion of all types of hookah products in the State with immediate effect last week.

The CCB arrested nine people and charged them under the Cigarettes and Other Tobacco Products Act (COTPA), Food Safety and Standards Act, and Karnataka Poisons (Possession and Sale) Rules, 2015.

Timings
BENGALURU

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 14	
RISE 06:43	SET 18:25
RISE 10:03	SET 22:49
THURSDAY, FEB. 15	
RISE 06:42	SET 18:25
RISE 10:47	SET 23:47
FRIDAY, FEB. 16	
RISE 06:42	SET 18:25
RISE 11:34	SET 00:00

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	32	22
Mysuru	33	19
Bengaluru	32	17

Bengaluru Today
32°C A dry weather to prevail. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be little warm. Night also will be cool and hazy.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
33°C The weather will be dry. Morning will be cool with mist and haze. Day will be warm. Night will be slight cool and hazy.

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, ASIF Ahmed, R/o No.2341, 12th Cross, Vinobha Nagar, K.G.Halli, Arabic College, Bangalore - 560045 have changed my name to Shaik Asif Ahmed vide affidavit dt: 09.02.2024 sworn before Notary Sumithra.N, Blr

I, Ashvi Peter Francis D/O, Peter Paul Francis R/o D-008, Maithree Block, Ssihms Staff Qtrs, Epip Area, Whitefield, Bangalore-560066 have changed my name to Francis Ashvi Peter Paul for all purposes.

I, MARY Sheela, W/o Eliza, R/a No.17, Kandaswamy Garden, Cox Town, Jeevanahalli, Bangalore-560005 hereby state that my name has been wrongly entered as Mary Stella in my Baptism record but my correct name is Mary Sheela vide affidavit dt: 09.02.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, Blr

I, MARY Sheela, W/o Eliza, R/a No.17, Kandaswamy Garden, Cox Town, Jeevanahalli, Bangalore-560005 have changed my minor Son's name from Eden to Eden John vide affidavit dt: 09.02.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, B'lore

I, M.R.NATARAJ, R/o No. 538, 1st Cross, Rachenahalli Main Road, Thanisandra, Bangalore-560077, have changed my minor daughter's name from Dwitika to Dwitika.N vide affidavit dated 13-02-2024 before Notary B. Seshagiri, Bangalore.

I, M.R.Nataraj, R/o No. 538, 1st Cross, Rachenahalli Main Road, Thanisandra, Bangalore-560077, have changed my minor daughter's name from Darshika to Darshika.N vide affidavit dated 13-02-2024 before Notary B. Seshagiri, Bangalore.

I, KANWAL Preet Singh, R/at No.21054, 5th Floor, Tower 21, Prestige Lakeside Habitat, Whitefield Sarjapur Road, Gunjur, Bengaluru-560087, have changed my minor son's name from Jasmehar Singh to Jasmehar Narula vide Affidavit dated 12-02-2024 before Notary Y.R.Chandrasekar, Bangalore.

I, ZAINEB Shujaath, aged 24 yrs, D/o Shujaath Ali, R/a #5/4, Milton Street, Cooke Town, St.Thomas Town Post, Bengaluru-560084 have changed my name to Zainab Shujaath vide affidavit dt: 12.02.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, B'lore

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NIZAMUDDIN Shujaath Ali, aged 58 yrs, S/o Mohamed Nizamuddin Saify, R/a #5/4, Milton Street, Cooke Town, St.Thomas Town Post, Bengaluru-560084 have changed my name to Shujaath Ali vide affidavit dt: 12.02.2024 sworn before Notary S.I.Balaguru, B'lore

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LXVIII ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-69)
O.S. No. 155/2023
Between :
M/s ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at: Landmark, Race- Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007, having its head office at and branch office at: 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur main Road, Bengaluru- 560 068, through its Authorised representative
Mr. Rohith Ali M. ...Plaintiff
And:
Mr. Vijay H A ...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC
Defendant:
Mr. Vijay H A
S/o. Honnavalli Subba Rao Anantha Ramaiah,
R/at No.134, 14th Main, 30th Cross, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Near Mono Type, Bangalore- 560 070.
Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of Rs. 11,57,361.56/- along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the LXVIII Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru (C.C.H-69), in person or by a pleader, on the day of 23-03-2024 at 11:00 A.M. to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the 5th day of February, 2024 at Bangalore.
By order of the Court, Assistant Registrar, Hon'ble City Civil Court, Bengaluru.
Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar
Vidhii Partners, Advocates,
No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', 3, Queens Road, Bengaluru -01.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I, S.DEETHYA D/O S.S.Saai Ananth & DoB 07.05.2013, residing at C303, Master Royal Meenakshi Apts, Bannerghatta Mn Rd, Bengaluru–76, have changed my name to S.Sai Keerthi, vide affidavit dated 08.02.2024 at Bengaluru.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE COURT OF THE LXV ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-66)
OS NO. 5279/2023 Hg 20/03/2024
Between :
M/s ICICI Bank Limited, having its registered office at : Landmark, Race-Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007, having its head office at and Zonal office at : 4/10, Mythree Tower, Bommanahalli, Hosur Main Road, Bengaluru- 560 068 And also having branch at MG Road, Bengaluru, through its Authorised representative Mr. Harish E. ...Plaintiff
And :
Ms. Arshiya Sultana ...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION UNDER ORDER V RULE 20 OF CPC
Defendant :
Ms. Arshiya Sultana
D/o Afzal Pasha, Age 30 years, R/at No. 131/2, 1st Floor, 5th Main, Rama Tent Road, Venkateshpuram, Kadugondanahalli, Near Satya Seva School, Bangalore- 560 045.
Whereas the plaintiff above named has instituted the above suit for recovery of money for sum of **Rs. 7,34,697.76/-** along with interest at the rate of 24% P.A. against you, and you are summoned to appear before the LXV Addl. City Civil & Sessions Judge at Bengaluru **(C.C.H-66),** in person or by a pleader, on the day of **20/03/2024** at **11:00 AM** to answer the claim, failing to which the suit would be disposed of Ex-Parte.
Given under my hand and seal of the court on this the 7th day of February, 2024 at Bangalore.
By order of the Court Assistant Registrar, Hon'ble City Civil Court, Bengaluru.
Advocate for Plaintiff
B.S. Jeevan Kumar
Vidhii Partners, Advocates, No. 701, Queens Corner 'A', 3, Queens Road, Bengaluru -01.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

I , Neha Kaul Pankow D/o Vinay Kaul R/o Whitefield, Bengaluru 560066. have changed my name from Neha Kaul to Neha Kaul Pankow.

LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE 85TH CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU
O.S. NO. 1191/2022
Between
ICICI Bank Limited, Having its Registered office at Landmark, Race Course Circle, Vadodara- 390 007 and having its Corporate office at ICICI Bank Towers, Bandra Kurla Complex, Bandra (East), Mumbai - 400 051 and its branch office at Mythree Centre, 4/10, Hosur Road, Bommanahalli, Bangalore- 560 068. Represented by its Debt Collection Manager and POA Holder Sri Pramodh Gurumallappa ...Plaintiff
And
Sri Arvind Srinivas ...Defendant
SUMMONS TO DEFENDANT
To,
Sri Arvind Srinivas,
S/o Sri Venktaiah,
Aged about 42 years, Rishika Marketing, No. 345/2 8th Cross, Green Park, R/o Ramamurthy Nagar, Main Road, Bangalore- 560 043
ALSO AT
Sri. Arvind Srinivas, No.181, 5th Cross, 7th Main MV Garden, Halsuru Hal 11 Stage, Bangalore- 560 008
WHEREAS the Plaintiff has instituted above said suit against you for recovery of **Rs. 3,27,688/- (Rupees Three Lakh Twenty Seven Thousand Six Hundred And Eighty Eight Only)** together with interest **@ 24% p.a.,** cost of the suit and to grant such other or further order relief. The above mentioned Defendant hereby summoned to appear before the Hon'ble 84 Additional City Civil & Sessions Judge **(CCH-85)** in person or through a Counsel who can able to answer the claim made against you on **06/03/2024** at **11:00 a.m.** failing which the suit is heard and disposed ex-parte.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Hon'ble Court on this **06.02.2024.**
BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT
DEPUTY REGISTRAR CITY CIVIL COURT, MAYOHALL UNIT, BANGALORE
ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFF
SA Associates, No. 10, 7th Cross, Victoria Layout, Bangalore- 560 047

FROM THE ARCHIVES

ISTOCKPHOTO

Too many IITs lead to unrealistic expectations and quality problems

While excellent engineering/STEM institutions are needed, they all do not have to be IITs. Some of the newly established institutes can be renamed and provided with sufficient resources to produce high quality graduates and good research

Philip G. Althbach
Eldho Mathews

The results of JEE Main 2024 have just been declared. In this article, dated February 20, 2021, Philip Althbach and Eldho Mathews discuss the need to maintain the standard of IITs.

Without question, the Indian Institutes of Technology, or the IITs, are the crown jewels of Indian higher education. They are world-renowned for the quality of their graduates and for their academic programmes in a range of fields in technology and engineering – and in the past decade, in research and innovation through research parks as well. They are among the few Indian higher education institutions that do reasonably well in the global rankings. However, for the past decade or so, and according to current plans, the IIT "system" has expanded beyond its capacity to maintain its high standards and is in danger of sinking into mediocrity. The recent decision of the University Grants Commission to permit select IITs under the 'Institutions of Eminence' category to set up campuses abroad could further weaken these already stretched institutions. It is time to rethink the changing role of IITs in order to ensure that quality and focus are maintained, by prioritising the needs of India, but with a 21st century twist.

What the IITs are, are not

The original five IITs were established in the 1950s and early 1960s . Four had a foreign collaborator: IIT Bombay (the Soviet Union), IIT Madras (Germany), IIT Kanpur (the United States), and IIT Delhi (the United Kingdom). Currently, there are 23 IITs. After setting up IIT Delhi in 1961, it took another 34 years to establish the sixth IIT in Guwahati (1994). Since then, 17 more IITs have been established, including several that resulted from upgrading existing institutions.

Funded generously by the central government, the IITs focused exclusively on technology and engineering. They later added the humanities and social sciences – but these programmes were modest until the 2020 National Education Policy emphasised the IITs should focus more on "holistic and multidisciplinary education".

According to data available with the Council of Indian Institutes of Technology, the IITs are small institutions with average student enrolments in the five older IITs of around 10,000. Some of the newer ones remain quite small, with fewer than 400 students. The older IITs have faculties of around 1,000, while some of the new ones, such as those in Palakkad and Jammu, employ 100 or so. Further, most of the IITs suffer from a severe shortage of professors. For example, IIT Dhanbad is approved to hire 781 instructors but only 301 positions were filled as of January 2021.

Offerings, students, faculty

The IITs are not universities; they have neither the range of disciplines nor the size that characterise universities worldwide. The IITs started as undergraduate institutions; they gradually added small post-graduate programmes, but some are now adding significant post-graduate offerings. IIT-Bombay's student enrolment , for example, was 58% post-graduate during 2019-20. The IITs were, and are, self-consciously elite institutions aiming at the highest international academic standards – a tradition which, in our view, is important but increasingly difficult to maintain.

It is not surprising that IITs graduates are so successful – the schools may be the most selective institutions in the world. Around 7,00,000 students sit for the national engineering entrance examination for the IITs and several other elite institutions each year and a vast majority of them target the 16,000-plus seats available in the 23 IITs. According to an answer provided in Lok Sabha by the Minister of Human Resource Development, in February 2020, dropout rates at the IITs are infinitesimal and declining, from 2.25% in 2015-16 to 0.68% in 2019-20.

Similarly, the IITs have traditionally attracted high quality faculty, where most have doctorates from the most respected western universities. Top quality professors have been attracted to the IITs because of the quality of the students, the chance to work with the best academic minds in India, and a commitment to India's development. While salaries do not compare well on the international market, working and living conditions on the older IIT campuses are comfortable.

In recent years, however, things began to change. The IITs could not attract a sufficient number of young faculty to fill vacancies resulting from retirements. The emerging IT and related industries in India offered much more attractive salaries and exciting work opportunities, and many were lured to universities and industry in other countries.

At the same time, the government dramatically expanded the number of IITs, spreading them around the country. Most of the new IITs are located in smaller towns such as Mandi (Himachal Pradesh), Palakkad (Kerala), Dharwad (Karnataka), and others. While it is important to provide educational opportunities outside the major metropolitan areas, top institutions are seldom located far away from urban amenities. There is no doubt a sufficient number of excellent students to attend all of the IITs, but there are not now, nor will there be in the future enough top-quality faculty to staff all of the new institutes, especially those in mofussil locations. Facilities and infrastructure are unlikely to be "world class." It is, thus, inevitable that quality will decline and the "IIT brand" diluted. This would be very unfortunate for India, since the IITs are without doubt India's most recognisable and respected academic institutions.

Another area is the lack of correlation between the local needs and IITs. Most of the IITs and other prominent "Institutes of National Importance" are 'academic enclaves' with little connection with their regions. Only a few State governments are effectively utilising the presence of IITs in the local milieu through knowledge sharing networks involving universities, colleges and schools, and local industries and firms. Similarly, there are few community outreach programmes. Such an approach could prevent disruption, such as that occurring in Goa, where local groups are resisting locating a new IIT in their region.

What needs to be done

While excellent engineering/STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) institutions are needed, they all do not have to be IITs. Perhaps 10 to 12 "real" IITs located near major cities are practical for India. Some of the newly established institutes can be renamed and provided with sufficient resources to produce high quality graduates and good research. A more limited "IIT system" needs to be funded at "world class" levels and staffed by "world class" faculty, perhaps with some recruited from top universities internationally. Recent decision to liberalise the recruitment rules to attract more foreign faculty is a good step in the right direction.

Further, the IITs need to pay attention to internationalisation beyond sending their brightest graduates abroad and recruiting Indians with foreign PhDs; starting overseas branches is a bad idea, but in-depth collaboration with the best global universities, and hiring foreign faculty, perhaps as visiting scholars, would yield excellent results, and further build the IITs international brand. IIT Bombay-Monash Research Academy, and University of Queensland-IIT Delhi Academy of Research (UQIDAR), are promising examples. The IITs need robust policies to attract international students. And, of course, adequate and sustained funding is mandatory – both from government and from the philanthropy of tremendously successful IIT graduates at home and abroad. It would be tragic for India's "jewel in the academic crown" to be diminished. And overexpansion will inevitably mean exactly that.

Philip G. Altbach is research professor and distinguished fellow, Center for International Higher Education, Boston College, U.S. Eldho Mathews is a higher education researcher based in New Delhi. The views expressed are personal.

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

February 14 is known for the celebration of Valentine's Day across the world. Here is a quiz on many other interesting events that happened on this day

Sindhu Nagaraj

QUESTION 1
On this day in 1989, a fatwa ordering the execution of this writer was issued by the Supreme Leader of Iran, for a controversial book, that got banned in many parts of the world. Name the writer and the book.

QUESTION 2
On February 14, 2018, this South African politician tendered his resignation over corruption allegations, and scandals, making way for the current President of South Africa. Identify him.

QUESTION 3
This widely popular social media platform owned by Google was launched on this day in 2005 by three former employees of PayPal. Name the platform. Name the three people who launched it.

QUESTION 4
Born on this day in 1946, Gregory Hines is one of the most celebrated artists of all time. What was he known for?

QUESTION 5
This English economist, believed to have been born on this day, is known for his population theory that said the power of population is indefinitely greater than the power of the earth to produce subsistence for man. Name the economist.

Visual question:
Identify this film from the image which was released in the U.S. on February 14. Name the actor in the image. What is the name of his character in the film?

Questions and Answers to the previous day's daily quiz: 1. This island once flourished as a major port for trade in Gujarat and is now connected to the mainland via two bridges. **Ans: Diu**
2. The majority of the people in this island are Muslim. Many people here speak Malayalam with a mix of Arabic. **Ans: Lakshadweep**
3. This island was named after a marine surveyor. **Ans: Ross Island**
4. Two tribes inhabit the Great Nicobar. One of them is the Nicobarese. Name the other. **Ans: Shompen**
5. This Chief Minister was an MLA of this island. **Ans: Sarbananda Sonowal**
6. This barrier island is a launch site. **Ans: Sriharikota**
Visual: Identify this Railway bridge. **Ans: Pamban bridge**
Early Birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Rajmohan.V| Pamban Bridge| Prashant Nain| Babli Devi

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

K. Subrahmanian

"Mr. R. Sanjeeva Raju, Patnidi, A.P., wants to know the meaning of 'old head on young shoulders.'"

" 'To have an old head on young shoulders' means 'to be a more mature person than is expected for one's age.' When a young man has very mature ideas that you normally associate with very experienced people, you say that he has an old head on young shoulders. There are a few young people whose heads are thatched with grey hair. You don't say of them that they have an old head on young shoulders."

"Mr. S. Prakash, Mutharasanallur, Tiruchi, wants to know the meaning of 'sororicide.'"

"It means 'killing of one's sister,' 'killer of one's sister.'

He is guilty of sororicide.

'Sororial' means 'sisterly.' 'Sororise' means 'to associate in a sisterly way.' In America 'sorority' is a women's society in a university or college. A male students' society in a university or college in America is called a 'fraternity.'"

"Mr. S. Arif Khan, Chrompet, Madras, wants to know the difference between 'agony' and 'anguish.'"

" 'Agony' is unbearable physical or mental suffering. 'Death agony' or 'last agony' means 'pangs of death.'

The man who was stabbed was in agony.

I was in agony till the doctor told me that the operation was successful.

'Anguish' means 'extreme physical pain or mental distress.'

She was in anguish when the child didn't return from school.

Her anguished cries upset him deeply.

'Agony' is a stronger word than 'anguish'; 'agony' connotes greater distress than 'anguish.' The difference is one of degree."

"Ms. S. Jayasree Bannerjee, Sion, Bombay, wants to know the difference between 'near' and 'by.'"

" 'By' means beside, 'by the side of.'

My house is by the temple.

It means the house is next or almost next to the temple. When you say 'My house is near the temple,' it means that the house is close to the temple. It is not next to the temple but at a short distance from the temple. A thing that is 'by' you is nearer than a thing that is 'near' you."

"Ms. C. R. Rajbanshi, Lucknow, wants to know the difference between a 'cardinal number' and 'an ordinal number.'"

"Cardinal numbers tell us how many objects are specified. One, two, three, four... are cardinal numbers. Ordinal numbers tell us in what order objects are arranged. First, second, third, fourth ...

He took one of my books.

'One' in this sentence is a cardinal number.

She got the first prize.

'First' in this sentence is an ordinal number."

"Ms. Snehalata, Raichur, wants to know the synonyms of 'happy.'"

"Here are some: cheerful, delighted, enchanted, enraptured, glad, thrilled, joyous, merry, jovial, jolly."

Published in The Hindu on February 5, 1991.

Word of the day

Mollycoddle:
a pampered darling; treat with excessive indulgence

Synonyms: spoil, coddle, indulge, baby, pamper, featherbed

Usage: *You need to stop mollycoddling him.*

Pronunciation: bit.ly/mollycoddlepro

International Phonetic Alphabet: /ˈmɒl.ɪˌkɒd.əl/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

City police achieve 50% conviction in trials last month

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The city police have achieved a 50% conviction in trials completed in January 2024. Trials in 1,306 cases were completed in city courts, of which 762 cases ended in conviction, the police said. City Police Commissioner B. Dayananda said the conviction rate was commendable and efforts were on to improve it further.

Out of the 762 cases that ended in conviction, Mr. Dayananda said in four cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, the courts gave a maximum punishment of 20 years jail term. These cases were registered in 2017, 2020, and 2022. In four cases, the accused were awarded 14 years to 20 years' jail, while in two cases, they were sentenced to one-year imprisonment. In three cases, the accused were sentenced to less than one year, and 845 accused in 753 cases were slapped with a fine as part of the conviction. The police launched a special drive to probe Long Pending Report cases and cracked 13 cases in January, including a POCSO Act case. A murder case reported in 1993 was also cracked.

REGIONAL CANCER CENTRE
MEDICAL COLLEGE PO, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM - 11.
Phone : 0471 2522278

No. RCC/462/2022-ADMN-2 Dated: 07.02.2024

Applications are invited for the post of
NUCLEAR MEDICINE TECHNOLOGIST
on contract basis in Nuclear Medicine Division of Regional Cancer Centre,
Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India.
Last date of receipt of application **23.02.2024**.
For more details please visit our Website : **www.rcctvm.gov.in**

D3/110/2024/I&PRD Sd/- DIRECTOR

APPOINTMENT

KALAM INSTITUTE OF HEALTH TECHNOLOGY (KIHT)

IMPORTANT UPDATE

KIHT will be conducting interviews for various positions of consultants in KIHT and it's associate organizations. Corresponding job descriptions are available on website www.kiht.in

ANDHRA PRADESH INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Govt. of Andhra Pradesh Undertaking)
O/o. Chief Engineer-III, APIIC Ltd., 9th Floor, APIIC Tower-I, IT Park, Mangalagiri, Guntur District-522503, Web : www.apiic.in
Email IDs : chiefengineer3-ap@apiic.in

'e' PROCUREMENT NOTICE
Tender Notice No.42/CE(III)/APIIC/2023-24, Dt: 12.02.2024

T.N.No.42: Developer for Investigation, Designs & drawings for the strengthening upgradation, Augmentation, establishment, operation and maintenance of the Industrial Infrastructure (Common Effluent treatment plant CETP) on DBFOT basis for the APSEZ Atchutapuram Industrial Area, Anakapalli District, Andhra Pradesh, Developed by the APIIC (2nd Call)
Date of Publication : **13.02.2024 at 11:00 AM**
Last date submission of bids : **27.02.2024 at 3:00 PM**
Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER-(III)
www.apeprocurement.gov.in
DIPR 2706PP/CL, Dt.13/02/2024

DEPARTMENT OF HANDLOOMS
THE TAMILNADU COOPERATIVE TEXTILE PROCESSING MILLS LTD., C.H.22
428, BHAVANI MAIN ROAD, ERODE -638 004. TEL:0424-2293907, E-MAIL ID: tctpmill2015@gmail.com

Ref.No. A/O/ 1522 /2024 E-TENDER NOTICE Date:15.02.2024

E-Tenders with two cover system are invited from eligible bidders for the **Supply of Textile Dyes, Processing Chemicals/Auxiliary Chemicals** for processing of Cotton as well as Man Made Fabrics for the year 2024-2025 in accordance with terms and conditions detailed in the Tender Schedule.

S. No	Variety of firewood items	Required Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Required quantity	Date and time availability of Bid document in web portal	Last date and time for receipt of online submission of filled Bid Documents	Date and time of online opening of Bids		Supply period
						Technical Bids	Financial Bids	
1	VAT Dyes	2,00,000	As per the Tender Schedule	15.02.2024 to 16.03.2024 upto 9.30 a.m.	16.03.2024 upto 10.30 a.m	16.03.2024 at 11.30 a.m	Will be intimated later	Upto 31.03.2025 or upto finalisation of next tender whichever is later
2	Disperse Dyes	1,00,000						
3	Chemicals (Group A)	1,00,000						
4	Auxiliaries (Group A)	50,000						
5	Chemicals & Auxiliaries (Group B)	50,000						
6	Chemicals & Auxiliaries (Group C)	25,000						

Eligibility of the Tenderer and other conditions are stipulated in the Bid document.
1. Complete E-Tender Documents can be viewed and downloaded free of cost from the Government tender website **https://tntenders.gov.in**
2. E-Tender Documents: Tender Schedule-I-Supply of Textile Dyes, Processing Chemicals and Auxiliary Chemicals for the year 2024-25 (S.No.2024- 25/ D&C /001)
3. The Bidders have to participate through online bidding only with Digital Signature Certificate (DSC) of Class III

DIPR/924/TENDER/2024 **Assistant Director/Administrator (FAC)/Tender Inviting Authority**

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF TAMIL NADU
JAWAHARLAL NEHRU STADIUM, RAJA MUTHIAH ROAD, PERIYAMET, CHENNAI – 3

Tender ref no.320/SI1/2022, **Notice Inviting e-Tender** Date:14.02.2024

e-bids are invited for the following work by Member Secretary, Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Raja Muthiah Road, Periyamet, Chennai-600 003 under two cover system.

Name of work	Construction of Multipurpose Sports Complex at Salem District. (Two cover system) **EMD: Rs.9,63,000/-**
Pre-bid Meeting on	**21.02.2024 at 12.30 A.M** in the O/o The Member Secretary, Sports Development Authority of Tamil Nadu, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Raja Muthiah Road, Periyamet, Chennai – 600003.
Last date for submission of online tender	**15.03.2024 at 4.00 P.M**
Date of opening of technical bids	**18.03.2024 at 4.00 P.M**
Period of Contract	450 Days from the date of handing over the site
Tenders available at **https://tntenders.gov.in**	All further information/notices shall be published in e-procurement portal only.

DIPR/922/Tender/2024 (Sd/-) Member Secretary, SDAT

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch
Building No.11/90, 3rd Floor, Near Old Shivaji Theater , J C Road, Bengaluru - 560 002.
Phone: 080- 25943678/3663, Fax No. 080-25943664, Email:sbi.05173@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE
Under Rule - 8 (1) (For immovable property)

A/c Nos.CC 36988675906, TL 36618065279, WCTL 39017520988, GECL -1, 40036044620, GECL -241203089019 WHEREAS,the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India, under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of the powers conferred under section 13(12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002, issued a Demand Notice dated **02.12.2023** calling upon the borrower,**M/s Uniqtronics Solutions Pvt. Ltd.,** Plot No.387, 10th Cross, 4th Main, 4th Phase, Peenya Industrial Area, Bengaluru – 560058 and Guarantors/Mortgagors **(1)Shri TaramallaiahBhadraiah,** S/o Shri T Bhadraiah, **Director, M/s Uniqtronics Solutions Pvt. Ltd. (2) Smt. P. Veena,** W/o Shri Taramallaiah Bhadraiah**, Both (1) & (2) residing at:** 6th Cross, Channabasaveshwara Nagar, Upparahalli Gate, Someshwara Puram, Tumakuru – 572102 **(3) Shri B Raveendra Kumar,** S/o T. Bhadraiah**,** #77, 12th Main Road, 2nd Stage, 9th Block, Near Bandee Maaramma Bus Stand, Nagarabhavi, Bengaluru – 560072**(4)Shri Shantaram Hegdekatte,** S/o Shri Venkataramana, #E73, Oakyard Apartment, 38th Cross, East End Main, 9th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru – 560069 **(5) Shri Rajiv Ranjan,** S/o Shri Deobrath Prasad**, Director, M/s Uniqtronics Solutions Pvt. Ltd.,** #L-44, Gulshan Vivante, Sector -137, Noida, Gautham Buddha Nagar, Uttar Pradesh, 201301 **(6)Shri Ratheesh V L,** S/o Shri Vikram Pillai, **Director, M/s Uniqtronics Solutions Pvt. Ltd.** #D-108, Ittina Mahavir Apartments, Neeladri Road, Near Wipro Gate, No.16, Electronic City Phase -1, Doddathoguru, Electronic City, Bengaluru – 560100 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs.4,62,11,881/- (Rupees Four Crore Sixty Two Lakh Eleven Thousand Eight Hundred Eighty One Only) as on 21.11.2023**and future interest at contractual rate from **22.11.2023** together with incidental expenses, costs, charges, etc. within 60 days from the date of the said notice.

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors having failed to repay the amount in full as mentioned in the Demand Notice, notice is hereby given to the Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the properties described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him under section 13 (4) of the said Act read with Rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 on this **12.02.2024.**

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with these below mentioned immovable properties and any dealings with the said immovable properties will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount of **Rs.4,77,49,512.00 (Rupees Four Crore Seventy Seven Lakh Forty Nine Thousand Five Hundred Twelve Only) excluding outstanding contingent liabilities as on 07.02.2024 as detailed below:**

S. No.	Account Number		Dues as on 07.02.2024
1	Cash Credit	**A/c No.36988675906**	**1,36,45,351.00**
2	Term Loan	**A/c No.36618065279**	**1,92,03,781.00**
3	WCTL	**A/c No.39017520988**	**44,57,195.00**
4	GECL -1	**A/c. No.40036044620**	**56,48,318.00**
5	GECL -2	**A/c No. 41203089019**	**47,94,867.00**
	Total dues as on **07.02.2024**		**4,77,49,512.00**

and future interest at contractual rate from **08.02.2024 and cost charges etc. thereon.**

The Borrower/Guarantors/Mortgagors' attention is invited to the provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Property No. 1: (belonging to Shri Taramallaiah Bhadraiah, S/o Shri T Bhadraiah)
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Katha No.9847/121, Sy. No.17/1A, PID No.6355, 6th Cross Road, Channabasaveshwara Layout (C B Layout), Ward No.23, Upparahalli, Tumakuru Town, measuring East West 34 feet and North to South 37 ½ feet totally measuring 1275 Sq. feet with house thereon standing in the name of Shri TaramallaiahBhadraiah, S/o Shri T Bhadraiah, vide Sale Deed dated 18.04.1994 and Registered as Document No.293/1994-95 dated 21.04.1994 at SRO, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by : Property of Shri K Narasimhaiah, West by :Property of Smt. Jayalakshmamma, North by:Property of Sy. No.20, South by :30 feet Road.

Property No. 2: (belonging to Smt. P. Veena, W/o Taramallaiah Bhadraiah)
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Katha No.9377/112, PID No.6313, 6th Cross Road, Channabasaveshwara Layout (C B Layout), Ward No.23, Upparahalli, Tumakuru Town, measuring East West 35 feet and North to South 36 feet totally measuring 1260 Sq. feet with building constructed thereon and standing in the name of Smt. P. Veena, W/o Taramallaiah Bhadraiah, vide Sale Deed dated 16.02.2015 and Registered as Document No.TMK-1-20879/2014-15 and CD No.TMKD595 dated 20.02.2015 at SRO, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by: Property of Smt. H S Hemavathi, West by :Property of Smt. Shadakshari, North by :Private Property, South by:30 feet Road.

Property No. 3: (belonging to Shri B Raveendra Kumar, S/o Shri T Bhadraiah)
All that piece and parcel of property bearing Site No.4, Sy. No.20/1B & 20/2, Katha No.4735/4, 4th Cross Road, Channabasaveshwara Layout (C B Layout), Ward No.23, Upparahalli, Tumakuru Town, measuring East West 40 feet and North to South 65 feet totally measuring 2600 Sq. feet standing in the name of Shri B Raveendra Kumar, S/o Sri T. Bhadraiah, vide Sale Deed dated 27.11.2000 and Registered as Document No.5857/2000-01 dated 27.11.2000 at SRO, Tumakuru and bounded on: East by: Site No.5, West by:Site No.3, North by:Private Property, South by: Road.

Note: All the above 3 properties are mortgaged in favour of the Bank vide MOD dated 20.02.2017 registered as Document No.TMK-1-19767/2016-17 and CD No.TMKD756 dated 06.03.2017 at SRO, Tumakuru and Extension of Mortgage vide MOD dated 03.03.2021 and registered as Document No.TMK-1-18360/2020-21 and CD No.TMKD1394 dated 03.03.2021 at SRO, Tumakuru 3.03.2021

Place :Camp : Tumkur
Date: 12.02.2024

Sd/- Authorised Officer & Chief Manager
State Bank of India,
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Bengaluru

Employees' State Insurance Corporation
(Ministry of Labour & Employment, Govt. of India)
MEDICAL COLLEGE, PGIMSR & HOSPITAL
Sedam Road, Kalaburagi (Gulbarga)-585 106
Ph: 08472-265546/47/48, E mail: deanmc-gb.kar@esic.nic.in

NOTICE
WALK-IN-INTERVIEW FOR ENGAGEMENT OF PROFESSOR, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR & SENIOR RESIDENT

Walk-in-Interview for engagement of Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor **(One Year extendable upto Three Years)** & Senior Resident **(One Year)** will be conducted on **15.02.2024 (Document Verification) & 16.02.2024 (Walk in interview)** on contract basis at ESIC Medical College & Hospital, Kalaburagi. For further details, please visit our website: **www.esic.nic.in/recruitment**.

Sd/-
Dean

KARNATAKA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE BOARD
'JAL BHAVAN', No. 6, 1st Stage, 1st Phase, BTM Layout
Bannerghatta Main Road, Bengaluru - 560 029
Phone : 080-41106507 - 18.
e-mail: cekwbbng@gmail.com website: https://kuwsdb.karnataka.gov.in

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

IFT no: KUWSDB/2023-24/WS/WORK_INDENT158

Name of the work: "Providing 2nd Stage UGD system to Channapatna City including Operation and Maintenance for a period of 3 years (including 1 year DLP) through Design, Build, Operate and Transfer (DBOT) mode with JV" amounting to ₹.99.60 Crores.

Further details may be obtained through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.

Sd/- CHIEF ENGINEER
DIPR/CP/3552/AKAR/2023-24 KUWS & D BOARD, BENGALURU

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi (PIU)
Website: https://www.kpwd.gov.in Email: eepwdudp02@gmail.com

No. EE/PWD/UDN/NIT/22/2023-24/AE-2 Dated: 09.02.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTICE

The Tender for the following works are invited through e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka (viz. www.eproc.karnataka.gov.in)

Sl. No.	Name of Work	Amount put to Tender (in Rs.)	EMD (in Rs.)	Last date for submission of tender in eprocurement	Eligible Tenderer
1	Construction of Government Industrial Training Institute Building at Karkala in Udupi District (Indent No. 7742)	₹ 3,03,54,557.49	₹ 5,37,300.00	27.02.2024	Class II and above K-PWD

Sd/-, Executive Engineer
Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi

Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur
(Govt. Autonomous Institution)
Hyderabad Road, Raichur -584102 Phone /Fax-08532-238488/89
Web. www. rims-raichur.com Email info@rims-raichur.com

No. RIMS/SUP/TEND/SER/13/2023-24(DME/2023-24/SE0159) Dated: 12.02.2024

E-TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from eligible bidders for Providing Services of Manpower to Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences, Raichur under two cover bid system through E-Procurement Portal of Government of Karnataka.

1) Tender document may be download from E-procurement portal of the Govt. of Karnataka from 13.02.2024 2) Tender must be submitted online through E-procurement portal on or before 12.03.2024 upto 5.30 PM 3) Technical bid will be opened on 14.03.2024 at 11.30 AM

Further information may be obtained from above office and from https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in and also from this Institution web site https://rimsraichur.karnataka.gov.in

Sd/- Director
Raichur Institute of Medical Sciences
DIP/RCR/489/KSMC&A/Job No.486/2023-24 Raichur

Government of Karnataka
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY SERVICES
Office of the Commissioner, Pashupalana Bhavana, 1st Floor, Opp. to CBI Office, Bellary Road, Hebbal Bengaluru-560024.
E-mail: commissionerahvs@gmail.com Phone No: 080-23412767

No:ಆಪಸಂ/ವಿಎಂಎಸ್/ವಿವ–27/ಕನಿ&ಭ/ಟೆಂಡರ್/2023–24 Date: 13.02.2024

SHORT TERM RE-TENDER NOTIFICATION
(KPP Portal Mode Only)

The Commissioner of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Services, Government of Karnataka, Bangalore hereby invites bids through K.P.P Portal from eligible bidders for **PROVIDING SERVICES OF HOUSEKEEPING, GARDENER, LIFT OPERATOR, CCTV SURVEILLANCE AND SECURITY TO PASHUPALANA BHAVAN** for which the tendered Amount is Rs.40.00 Lakhs.

Complete tender documents can be viewed by visiting Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** from: **13-02-2024** and Tenderers can upload all the necessary documents through **KPP** portal from **13-02-2024** to **20-02-2024 till 5.30 p.m.** Further information can be obtained from KPP portal and this office during office hours.

Sd/- Deputy Director,
DIPR/CP/3546/SPAN/2023-24 Veterinary Medical Stores

GULBARGA ELECTRICITY SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED
(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi, Pin Code.585 102
Phone Number: 08472 256881 CIN: U04010KA2002SGC030436
E-mail : seeprojectsgescom@gmail.com

No.GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/AE-2/2023-24/55266-77 Date: 12-02-2024

:: TENDER NOTIFICATION ::
(THROUGH KARNATAKA PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PORTAL ONLY)

Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company Limited, Kalaburagi invites tender for the work of **"Augmentation of 33/11kV Sub-Station** by providing additional 1x5MVA Power Transformer with 1I/C+4F a**t 1) Nelogi in Jewargi Taluk, 2) Ankalga in Jewargi Taluk, 3) Jidaga in Aland Taluk & 4) Udchan in Afzalpur Taluk of Kalaburagi District on Total Turnkey Basis** including supply of all equipment's/materials, erection (Including Civil Works), testing and commissioning under competitive bidding from eligible bidders through **Karnataka Public Procurement Portal.**

Sl. No.	Tender Enquiry Nos.	Name of Company
1	No:GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/AE-2/2023-24 /Nelogi/423	GESCOM
2	No:GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/AE-2/2023-24 /Ankalga/424	
3	No:GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/AE-2/2023-24 /Jidaga/425	
4	No:GESCOM/CEE(O)/SEE(Proj)/EEE/AEE/AE-2/2023-24 /Udchan/426	

The bid documents will be available in **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **19.02.2024,** the prospective bidders can obtain further details from the office of the undersigned.

DIPR/Kalaburagi/815/KSMC&A/2023-24 Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy., (Operations), Corporate Office, GESCOM, Kalaburagi.

OBITUARY & REMEMBRANCE

IN MEMORIAM

25th Yr. Anniversary Remembrance

Shri K M Kuppuswamy Achary
Retd. (H.M.T., B'lore)

It has been 25 years, since my beloved father
Shri K M Kuppuswamy Achary left me on 14-02-1999
His wisdom, love, and the invaluable lessons on the value of life, he imparted to me are deeply missed every day.
In my heart forever, may his soul rest in peace.
My father taught the importance of kindness, resilience and the joy of simple moments.
His legacy lives on in the way we cherish every day and strive to make a positive impact, just as he did.

Shri K.Thyagarajan - Son
T. Surendra Kumar-Grand Son; Pushpavathi-Grand Daughter in law

DEATH

P. MANICKAM (83), Retired Senior Supervisor (Comp News), The Hindu, Chennai passed away on 13-02-2024. Address: 44, Dr Natesan First Street, Ice House, Triplicane, Chennai - 600005. Contact: 9840943152

OBITUARY

With profound grief, we announce the demise of
Shri P.D. Perumal
(Retd. Chennai Telephones)
on 10th Feb 2024 in Singapore.
Last rites performed on 11th Feb 2024.
As per his wish, his body was handed over to National University of Singapore for Medical Research/Educational purposes.

Deeply Mourned by: Wife: Gauthami Devi, Son: U.P. Deepa Prakash, Daughter-in-Law: D. Jayalatha, Son-in-Law: S. Pandurangan, Grandchildren: P. Praveen Kumar, P. Arun Kumar & D. Meha

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

FIRST ANNIVERSARY

MR. N. SUNDARAM
22.04.1929 - 14.02.2023
Former Senior Executive at TATA Steel
Fondly Remembered By
SUDHA - SUNDAR RAM - LATHA
PRAKASH - GEETHA
& Grandchildren

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

Mrs. JAGADAMMA VASAVAN
"Still in our Minds and Hearts"
Fondly Remembered by
E.V.Vasavan, Kalpana Nishanth, AK Nishanth
Workers & Staff of
Sicco Engineering Works, Mob: 95000 37252

BELAGAVI URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Belagavi. Fax/Phone No: 0831-2470342, 2470257 E-mail: belagavibuda@gmail.com

No: BUDA/PWD/E-TENDER/2023-24/3905 Date: 13-02-2024

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement Portal)

Commissioner, Belagavi Urban Development Authority (BUDA), Belagavi invites tenders from eligible Agencies for the works taken under Belagavi Urban Development Authority Grants works in Standard Tender Document through e-Procurement - 02 Portal for further details visit online Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** The details of the time table of tenders are as follows.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Indent No.	Estimated Amount of Work (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)	Work Execution Period
1	Appointing Project Management Consultant (which includes overall supervision of the Project, Providing third party report and all allied Technical Works pertaining to the execution of work) for the work of Development of Residential Layout at Sch No. 61 in Kanabaragi, Belagavi.	SE0009	99.12	99,000/-	24 Month

Tender Form as per e-Procurement Portal:
1) Pre Bid Meeting Details: Meeting will be held on **04-03-2024 at 11.00 AM in BUDA Office, Belagavi. 2)** Last Date for Submission of Tender Queries: **07-03-2024 upto 4.30 PM. 3)** Last Date for Submission of Tender: **14-03-2024 upto 4.30 PM. 4)** Date of Opening of Technical Bid on **15-03-2024 at 5.00 PM. 5)** Date of Opening of Financial Bid will be intimated in e-Procruement Portal. **6)** Below mentioned Officers of Authority have all the rights to Accept or Reject the Tender without giving any reason. **7)** GST Amount will be paid to the Tendered Amount Seperately.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer
Belagavi Urban Development Auhority
Belagavi

Sd/-
Commissioner
Belagavi Urban Development Auhority
Belagavi

DIPR/Belagavi/1115/Adverto/2023-24

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath (Responsible for selection of news under the PRB Act).
RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945 • ISSN 0971 - 751X

From Page One

Lokayukta police register DA case against DKS

"This has now set in motion a conflict between the Central and State agencies – the CBI and the Lokayukta police," a senior official said. Since the CBI had challenged the State government's decisions, it was unlikely to hand over the case file to them and without that, the probe in the fresh FIR would be a non-starter, he added. "We have not conducted any preliminary inquiry. We have only replicated the FIR filed by CBI in the case on October 3, 2020, and are awaiting the case file from the CBI," a senior Lokayukta police official said.

The CBI FIR alleged that during the check period of 2013 to 2018, Mr. Shivakumar and his family members had acquired DA to the tune of ₹74.93 crore, 44.93% to their known sources of income.

'It was wrong to give case to CBI'

Responding to the new FIR against him by Lokayukta police, Mr. Shivakumar told media persons on Tuesday that he would continue his legal fight. "The then Advocate-General had opined that my case cannot be handed over to the CBI, a copy of which I have secured through the Right to Information Act, 2005. So it is wrong that the then B.S. Yediyurappa-led government handed over my case to the CBI overruling this opinion by the AG. So, our government has withdrawn consent to the CBI and referred the case to the Karnataka Lokayukta," he said.

INBRIEF

Chief Minister felicitates Rohan Bopanna

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah felicitated tennis player Rohan Bopanna for winning the men's doubles Australian Open title and announced a prize of ₹50 lakh.

Mr. Bopanna was accompanied by his family during the meeting on Tuesday with the Chief Minister, who was accompanied by Information Technology Minister Priyank Kharge, Kannada and Culture Minister Shivaraj S. Thangadagi, and his Political Secretary Govindaraju.

On X, Mr. Siddaramaiah posted: "Met and congratulated Rohan Bopanna, who won the men's doubles title of Australian Open tennis tournament and announced a prize of ₹50 lakh."

Mr. Bopanna became only the third Indian to win a men's doubles Grand Slam title, taking the Australian Open crown with partner Matthew Ebden after a win over Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori in the final.

Gescom warns of power cut at Kannada University

Even as the Congress government has been giving free power to lakhs families under the Gruha Jyoti scheme, the Gulbarga Electricity Supply Company (Gescom) has issued a notice to Kannada University, Hampi, that it would stop power supply for not paying pending dues of ₹1.05 crore, in the middle of the academic year.

Gescom served a notice to the Registrar of the university on Tuesday stating that it would cut the power supply to the university if the pending dues of ₹1,05,74,695 were not paid immediately.

The university has been a facing severe fund crunch over the past years owing to non-release of funds by the State government for paying electricity bills, payment of salaries to the guest faculty, outsourcing work employees and building maintenance works, sources said. Sources said the university has sought ₹132 crore budgetary support from the government in 2024-25.

Bill making 60% Kannada mandatory on name boards of establishments tabled

'Boards of commercial, industrial and business undertakings, trusts, counselling centres, hospitals, labs, hotels, etc. should be 60% in Kannada'

IN THE LEGISLATURE

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Kannada Language Comprehensive Development (Amendment) Bill, 2024, was tabled in the State Legislative Assembly on Tuesday, making it mandatory for all business establishments in the State to display name boards with 60% of text in Kannada in the upper half of the boards.

The Bill makes a provision that the name boards of commercial, industrial and business undertakings, trusts, counselling centres, hospitals, laboratories, amusement centres, hotels, etc. should be 60% in Kannada.

The Bill said, "It is necessary to amend Kannada Basha Samagra Abhivruddhi Adhiniyama, 2022, to appoint the director, Directorate of Kannada and Culture, as the member and the secretary of Kannada Development Authority to be the convener of the State-level committee and to make a provision that name boards should display 60% in Kannada."

A signboard of a business establishment in Bengaluru vandalised by Karnataka Rakshana Vedike activists. FILE PHOTO

The Bill makes display of 60% Kannada language on boards of State government departments, PSUs, cooperative and public undertakings, educational institutions, banks and other financial institutions, private industries, universities. It said display of officers' designations should also be primarily in Kannada.

It added all tender notifications, advertisements, application forms, digital forms, certificates and notifications issued by the government or local authorities for publication in the State should be in Kannada. The pamphlets, banners, flexes, electronic display boards, information, notices, and other programmes conducted by the government, local authorities, aided and unaided institutions should be in Kannada.

Kannada outfits such-Karnataka Rakshana Vedike (KRV) have launched an aggressive campaign to promote the use of Kannada on name boards and had earlier removed English name boards from several shops in Bengaluru and other parts of Karnataka.

Following the protest, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) started identifying establishments that do not display Kannada name boards, and sent them notices.

Law to curb cricket betting and online gaming soon

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka government on Tuesday announced that it would come out with a new legislation to curb cricket betting and online gaming.

Replying to concerns raised by members across party affiliations in the Assembly about the serious impact of betting and online gaming on youth, Home Minister G. Parameshwara said, "Soon we will bring out a new legislation to prevent this." At the same time, he sought to remind the Centre that it too had a role in curbing the menace by amending the Central legislation concerned.

G. Parameshwara

Pointing out that the Centre was getting 28% GST on proceeds from online gaming, he said the Centre should not allow online gaming to continue just because it is getting huge GST from it.

Earlier, IT&BT Minister Priyank Kharge said there was a dire need to clearly define "Game of Chance" and "Game of Skill" by both the State and the Centre to set the legal stage ready for banning online betting and gaming.

Pointing out that gaming transactions accounted for about ₹1.6 lakh crore, he said the Centre was getting nearly ₹74,000 crore as GST from these transactions. Some online gamers had even started playing on the servers of other countries to avoid GST, he said.

The Home Minister also talked about drug cases, and said, "Our government has filed 6,764 cases related to drug peddling so far. In fact, the police recently seized 9,645 kg of ganja and 233 kg of synthetic drugs, together worth around ₹142 crore."

Dr. Parameshwara said the government had already deported 245 foreigners, mostly African nationals for their involvement in drug dealings.

Cases had been filed against 102 foreigners in this regard, he said.

Earlier Congress MLA Ravi Ganiga alleged that the cricket betting had become so rampant in districts including Mandya that there were bookies in every prominent village. "After every IPL cricket match, the bookies are taking away two-wheelers from the youth who lose bets and fail to provide the betting amount," he said.

He alleged that the bookies had connections with all the three major political parties and used their influence whenever they were in trouble.

'Govt. has not recovered huge loans since 1977'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has not recovered outstanding loans of ₹10,389.78 crore given to its eight departments and undertakings, which included borrowings since 1977, stated the Comptroller & Auditor General (CAG) report.

The CAG report on Finance Accounts for the 2022-23 fiscal was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on Tuesday. "In respect of old loans amounting to ₹10,389.78 crore involving eight departments (21 loanee entities), recoveries of principal have not been effectedfor several years. This includes loans pending since the year 1977," the report said.

The 21 loanee entities, most of them State-owned undertakings, have arrears of ₹15,856 crore, which includes principal of ₹9,380 crore.

The oldest arrears are from 1977 pertaining to loans given to the BWSSB, Karnataka State Seeds Corporation Ltd., the Electro Mobile India Ltd., and Karnataka State Tourism Development Corporation.

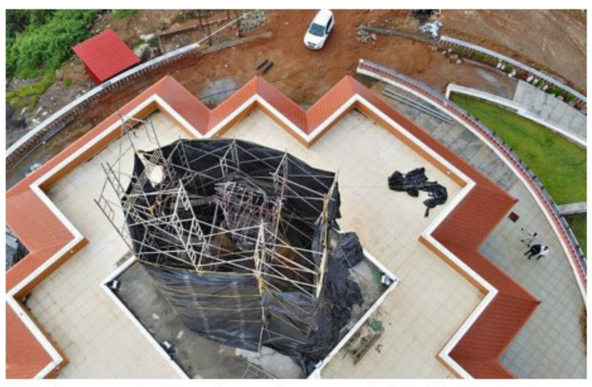
Further, the terms and conditions of repayment of loans have not been settled for the 28 statutory bodies or other entities with loans amounting to ₹1,462.01 crore as on March 31, 2023.

It said in recent years, the borrowing profile of the State has shown an increasing trend towards more reliance on open market borrowings. The outstanding market borrowings of the year (2022-23) worked out to 62.92% of the gross public debt and other liabilities. The government has raised market loans of ₹36,000 crore.

Tangadagi's comment has BJP members up in arms

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The BJP members engaged in a verbal duel with Kannada and Culture Minister Shivaraj Tangadagi after he said that "those carrying gods on their heads" were behind the poor quality idol of Parashurama installed at Parashurama theme park in Udupi district.



Parashurama Theme Park at Bailoor in Karkala taluk. FILE PHOTO

Responding to the issue raised by Congress member U.B. Venkatesh, the Minister told the Legislative Council on Tuesday that the poor quality work did not happen during the Congress regime, but during the previous BJP government. "It happened during the time of those carrying gods on their heads. The people of Udupi and Mangaluru are known for their devotion towards gods. I feel bad if this happens in such places," he said, adding that he had received complaints regarding the issue.

The Parashurama statue at Parashurama theme park at Ummikal Hills in Karkala taluk has turned controversial after allegations were made that the statue was of poor quality. The district administration in October, 2023, removed the top half of the statue for strengthening work.

Taking objection to the statement, BJP member Bharathi Shetty said, "Even before an inquiry, why are you judging? All investigation agencies are with you. Get an inquiry done. We are not objecting to the inquiry, but to what you are saying." Janata Dal (Secular) member Govindraj asked why instead of getting a report from the department, the Minister was reading out from a newspaper.

Meanwhile, the Minister said that they also believed in God much more than others. "Chief Minister Siddaramaiah agreed for a CID inquiry on February 6. The Nagmohan Das committee will also give its report. Action will be taken against whoever has committed irregularities in the name of god," he said.

BJP central leaders will decide on Mandya candidate: Deve Gowda

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Mandya Lok Sabha constituency is set for a high profile election, with Janata Dal (Secular) supremo H.D. Deve Gowda declaring on Tuesday that the decision on the candidate for the constituency would be taken by the BJP central leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

H.D. Deve Gowda

The decision on finalising the candidate will be jointly taken by Mr. Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president J.P. Nadda along with the former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy, the former Prime Minister said. His statement came in the light of incumbent Mandya MP Sumalatha Ambarish meeting the Prime Minister and the BJP president seeking to retain Mandya seat for the BJP in the alliance.

"Over three days during the next week, I, along with party leaders, will travel across all the eight Assembly constituencies in the parliamentary seat. We will go united and elicit opinions from party workers on the possible candidate. Our party high command will convey this to BJP leaders on the issue. Ultimately, they will decide. We will adhere to the decision taken," the former PM told presspersons here after holding a meeting of leaders from Mandya district.

On the candidates, he said, "There are opinions that either Nikhil Kumaraswamy or Mr. Kumaraswamy should contest, and that party workers also want me contest. I do not want to contest and Mr. Nikhil also does not want to contest."

Govt. will withdraw benefits to firms that failed to provide jobs to land-losers: Patil

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Large and Medium Industries Minister M.B. Patil on Tuesday told the Legislative Assembly that the government would take strict action including withdrawal of incentives to the industries that have failed to provide jobs to land-losers despite availing incentives and subsidies from the government including allotment of land.

Replying to a call attention notice in this regard by JD(S) member Samruddhi Manjunath, Mr. Patil said the rules made it clear that the industries would lose the incentives and the land if they failed to honour the commitment of providing jobs to land-losers depending upon their educational qualification.

Members across party affiliations alleged that various prominent industries who had availed land and other benefits from the government had failed to abide by the norm of providing jobs to land-losers or to the locals.

BJP member Arvind Bellad alleged that the Infosys which had been given 58 acres of land in Hubballi for industrial purposes had actually "turned the land into a garden."

Claiming that the land had been granted to the Infosys at ₹35 lakh an acre as against the prevailing rate of ₹1.5 crore an acre hoping that the land-losers' children would get jobs, he said the hopes of the land-losers had now been dashed. Responding to this, the Minister said the government would look into the issue.

Rules do not permit regularisation of guest lecturers: Minister

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Stating that the rules do not permit the regularisation of guest lecturers, Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar told the Legislative Council on Tuesday that the government was in the process of appointing 310 principals and 1,208 assistant professors shortly.

"The list of selected principals is ready and verification of selected assistant professors is under way. This will help mitigate the shortage to an extent. We have requested Finance Department to sanction 7,000 teaching posts, including technical posts. Of the total 2,000 assistant professor sanctioned posts, 1,208 are being filled," he said, participating in a debate initiated by the Opposition seeking the regularisation of guest lecturers and providing them with job security.

Both BJP and JD(S) earlier said that the recent hike of salaries was insufficient.

Pensioners have to be handled with soft gloves, sympathy: High Court

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Observing that "State pensioners have to be handled with soft gloves, sympathy and smile," the High Court of Karnataka has directed the State government to revise the pension of a 63-year-old retired government school teacher by adding Kannada Language Examination (KLE) increment to her terminal benefits.

A Division Bench comprising Justice Krishna S. Dixit and Justice G. Basavaraja passed the order while partly allowing a petition filed by Seethalaxmi of Kannukere in Kundapura taluk of Udupi district. The petitioner had given representation for KLE increment on the lines of increment granted to similarly-placed teachers, after her retirement in 2019 but it was rejected by the government as well as the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal (KSAT).

"We cannot be oblivious to the fact that who is before the writ court is a poor lady who has served the State for about three decades on not much attractive salary..." the HC observed. "The petitioner has retired from service and drawing not much pretty pension. The evening of life poses age-related difficulties which may be arguably mitigated with the aid of money. Denying any relief in its entirety would do great injustice to the pensioner," the Bench said while speaking of the limit on payment of KLE increment with effect from 2018, three years prior to her application before the KSAT.

Varieties of roses brought by farmers are being packed and kept for auction and distribution ahead of Valentine's Day. SUDHAKARA JAIN

PETA India members dressed in red gowns and angel wings for distributing red roses to couples. K. MURALI KUMAR

It's raining Roses

Bengaluru's excellent location, climate and soil condition greatly favour rose cultivation in and around the city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Red roses have taken centre stage at the International Flower Auction Bangalore (IFAB) Limited, with heaps of that "eternal symbol of love" being sold ahead of Valentine's Day on February 14.

Demand for red roses always goes up around this time, agrees Veena A.M., Assistant General Manager IFAB, a joint venture company of public and private shareholders that seeks to create a trading platform for flowers.

According to her, the overall demand for roses, in general, has increased considerably since last year, when the daily maximum average volume of flowers sold was about 6.5-7 lakhs. "We sold out around 9.2 lakhs of roses yesterday, of which 40-45% will be red roses," says Veena.

Bengaluru's excellent location, climate and soil conditions greatly favour rose cultivation in and around the city, making it one of the biggest exporters in India. In fact, as Veena points out, the growing area has been extended by almost 25-30% this year, with growers hailing from places like Kolar, Chikkaballapur, Anekal, Tumkur and Hosur attending the auctions daily. "Bangalore is a flower hub due to the flowers quality and shelf life. Because of that, they are preferred," she says, adding that the high volume has ensured that the average price of roses has come down considerably from last year.

Avanti Nioding's debut novel is an ode to her childhood

Her debut book is the coming-of-age story of a young girl whose experiences are interlaced with the paranormal and the dream world

Priyamedha Dutta
BENGALURU

It was an exhilarating feeling of having done something right," says Avanti Nioding whose debut novel *House of Past* has been released. The book is an ode to her childhood memories and her passion for storytelling.

Her novel tells the coming-of-age story of a young girl whose experiences are interlaced with the paranormal and the dream world which she alternates with reality. The book mainly explores feelings of paranoia and entrapment in a world where she is surrounded by people who do not feel as strongly as she does. The protagonist feels alienated and desperately seeks balance and home.

Avanti Nioding

Childhood
Growing up in Choudwar, Odisha, Avanti describes her childhood as one filled with absolute greenery. "I was mesmerised by the affluence of nature around me, that is where I learned to savour the pleasure of solitude. Choudwar's memories keep reflecting in my writings," says the author, who currently lives in Bengaluru.

For Avanti, it was her school library and that opened up a world of stories, "What got me into reading was the library books at school, especially the children's classic literature, and fairytales." The library became her refuge where her curious mind found solace and her imagination soared boundlessly. During her graduation studies at Nagpur, Maharashtra, Avanti continued her passion for writing through poetry and articles that often featured in local newspapers and college magazines.

Her engagement with theatre as a performer has also helped her understand and shape characters when it comes to writing, "For me performing on stage as a character, and writing, both have the same root. While on stage I was one of the characters trying to do justice to a writer's creation, as a writer I was thinking and being multiple characters. It is the desire to tell stories that helped me perform on the stage, as well as to write."

> Like every passionate reader, I always have a book in my bag, and that makes me feel like I am carrying a world around with me, one I can safely lose myself in
>
> **AVANTI NIODING**
> Writer

The character
The narrative revolves around the character Anya's intense feelings of nostalgia and homesickness which sends her down a rabbit hole, where she is forced to confront connections and facts from her school days that she had buried deep inside since she refuses to get out of her paranoia-induced sleep.

Writing her first book, it took her a year to complete it, "I knew the main protagonist, Anya, well enough to know how she would feel. But I did not know how she would react. Often, I would find myself losing sleep over what she was going to do next, and how her actions would affect the rest of the characters in the story."

Since a large part of the story juggles between dream and reality, Avanti talks about how most of her works have been inspired by her dreams. "It's like I would dream the whole thing up then wake up and write it down," she says.

Publishing
Writing a new book and navigating the whole publishing side of the book, Avanti describes can be a daunting as well as a learning experience, "As I self-published the book, I had to do a lot of research. But I found a lot of help and encouragement that pointed me in the right direction. For instance, I learned how to acquire a copyright, acquire an ISBN, choose the right format for the book, the correct font, and placement of my illustrations, among many other things."

Avanti describes seeing her final work as, "So exciting that I could taste it on my tongue. When I submitted it for printing, I was incredibly nervous. I was putting my heart out there. When I got my first printing book, the touch of the cover and the pages felt delicious."

Hope
With her first book, Avanti describes how the story, "Offers a catharsis to all those who feel confused by a world that adamantly continues to live in denial of that which is difficult to understand." The book's young protagonist gives the readers who identify with her 'hope' when she comes out of her inner maze.

"Like every passionate reader, I always have a book in my bag, and that makes me feel like I am carrying a world around with me, one I can safely lose myself in," says Avanti.

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 14, 1974

Food Situation in Mangalore 'Grave': Council's Concern

Mangalore, Feb. 13. The Mangalore City Municipal Council adjourned its special session here this evening after adopting a resolution expressing concern at the grave food situation in Mangalore city and South Kanara district. The Council also resolved to inform the Chief Minister and Food Minister about the "explosive" food situation and urge the Government to rush adequate food stocks to the city.

The Jan Sangh leader Mr. G. Ramesh Kamath moved the resolution and Dr. C.D. Jathanna, Congress, seconded it.

The Council had met in special session to consider the Government directive regarding suggestions for reorganisation of districts and taluks.

Irate Ryots Mob Govt. Office

Shimoga, Feb. 13: Nearly 500 farmers of Shimoga taluk, tired of knocking at the doors of Government offices daily during the last 15 days for fertilizers, today mobbed the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture here, bringing office work to a standstill.

The farmers demanded justice in the allotment of fertilizers to different districts for the summer crop. They alleged that Shimoga district, with 1,20,000 acres of irrigated lands, and which leads in procurement, was shown a step motherly attitude, as only 400 tonnes of fertilizers were allotted whereas some other districts with less irrigated lands were allotted over 2,000 tonnes.

Bengaluru pop-up champions zero-waste cooking, indigenous ingredients

Chef Radhika Khandelwal's seasonal menu champions a vast array of grains, florals, fruits, and meats

Nidhi Adlakha

If you have always wondered how chefs follow the zero-waste approach to cooking and utilise ingredients you have struggled to incorporate in everyday cooking, this ongoing pop-up by Chef Radhika Khandelwal – of popular restaurant Fig & Maple in New Delhi and Goa – in the city could answer a few of your lingering questions.

Radhika says she specialises in bringing Indian ingredients and flavours to life in a unique way. "My approach isn't about strict authenticity; instead, I aim to introduce people to the rich diversity of Indian flavours and the country's culinary tapestry," says the chef who has curated a menu that champions a vast array of grains, florals, fruits, and meats.

"Diners will have the opportunity to experience a tantalizing array of new ingredients that showcase the diversity of Indian cuisine. Some highlights include kodo millet, a nutrient-rich grain; watermelon radish, known for its vibrant colour and crisp texture; and the *sabudana*, which is presented in a risotto form," says the chef who creates seasonal menus at her restaurant every three months with local, lesser-known ingredients such as *moringa*, *bimbli*, star fruit, *bol* fruit, *chugur* leaves, which impart a tartness and depth of flavour," she says, adding that for a touch of tart, she has opted for physalis, which offers a unique combination of sweet and tangy flavours.

Something new, something true Chef Radhika Khandelwal and some of her signature dishes. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The black lime, says Radhika, is something she has brought with her from Goa. "It is essential to some of our signature dishes, and the drying process takes over a week to achieve the perfect flavour profile. Having said that, we've made a conscious choice to source the majority of our ingredients locally from vendors in Bengaluru."

As someone who champions the zero-waste approach to cooking, for those wanting to follow the same route in their home kitchens, Radhika believes the transition must begin by "educating yourself on what parts of produce are edible and view them as food rather than waste". In addition, she recommends storing food correctly to prolong its freshness, and buy only what you need to minimise excess.

Up next, Radhika will plans to participate in the global hospitality platform Parabere Forum in Rome, and host a series of pop-up events through the year. "These events will feature a diverse range of cuisines and showcase hyper-regional and hyper-local ingredients sourced from various parts of India."

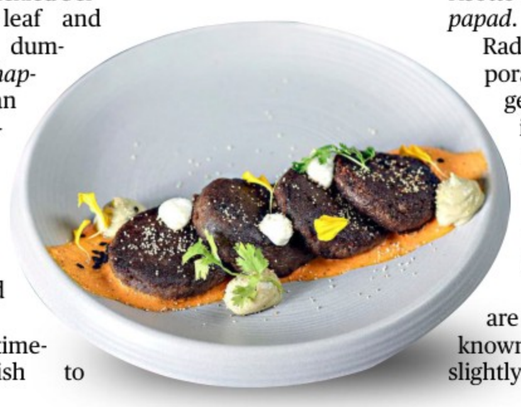
Until February 18 at Windmills, Whitefield.

For reservations, call 88802-33322.

and spices such as *nag kesar, pipli*, and *patthar ke phool*.

Trio of butters

This time around, her menu for the pop-up features dishes such as bread with a trio of butters – tangy *kokum*, Goan chorizo and pungent *kasundi*, ghee roast pate with pickled berries, *moringa* leaf and cream cheese dumplings, *dosa achappams* with Goan chorizo, mushroom *galauti*, pumpkin and barley risotto, and desserts including *ghewar* apple pie and *kulfi biki* max.



The most time-consuming dish to create, says Radhika, was the *khandvi* ravioli with prawns in a zero-waste prawn shell bisque. "This dish involves intricate preparation, including the delicate process of crafting the *khandvi* ravioli and extracting flavour from the prawn shells to create the rich bisque. Each step requires precision and attention to detail, resulting in a dish that is not only delicious but also a testament to our commitment to innovation and sustainability," she says, adding that her other favourites from the menu include smoked eggplant *mojo* with *kodo* millet, and the *sabudana* risotto with *laal maas* and *papad*.

Radhika has also incorporated a range of indigenous flora, including flame of the forest, a "vibrant floral ingredient that infuses dishes with a subtle yet distinctive flavour". "Additionally, we are utilising black lime, known for its tangy and slightly smoky notes, and

EATING OUT

Sip, savour and relax

Ruth Dhanaraj

There are a lot of reasons to visit One8. Set in the heart of the city, the panoramic view from the rooftop and the wraparound decks gives one a rare, serene glimpse of Bengaluru. This is the eighth One8 outlet in the country, and the first in Bengaluru after branches in Delhi, Pune, Kolkata and Mumbai – it is also the most expansive with sweeping views of Cubbon Park and Chinnaswamy Stadium.

One does not visit One8 to escape the madding crowd; it is where the upwardly mobile go to be seen. From artfully decorated linen and abundance of potted plants to chic new age chandeliers and intimate place settings, the interiors exude a quiet opulence. Spread over three floors, pretty much any nook and corner of the space has hashtag potential.

Still, jaw-dropping photographs cannot quell a rumbling stomach so we crack open the menu that has been structured around cricketer Virat Kohli's dietary preferences, which focus on healthy eating. The first section is Virat's Favourites, so of course we start with two selections from there. The tartare topped avocado with crispy corn, Japanese mayo and sriracha, served with scallions is unusual, interesting and quite delicious. If all healthy food tasted that way, I would be the first in a long line of hourglass hopefuls.

The same can be said about the mushroom goggly dim sums. Stuffed with assorted wild mushrooms, cream cheese, vegetarian broth and a touch of truffle oil, it made a carnivore such as myself seriously consider seconds.

Hip and happening One8 Commune.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

We were urged to try the *jalebi chaat*, crafted especially for One8, but it was disappointing. The combination of nylon *sev*, mint chutney and sweet curd, topped with a warm, crispy *jalebi* felt more of a slapdash construct.

The bamboo cashew nut chicken was a let down too. The tried and tested combination of bell peppers and schezwan sauce, failed to hit the high notes – it could have been a dish served any where in the city. Redemption came with the chicken souvlaki and its touch of the Mediterranean. Tender, juicy chicken with grilled onions and tomato, accompanied by a flavourful tzatziki and soft pita, it once again had us weighing the pros of a healthy diet. The irony was not lost on us, since on the other hand, we were enjoying some of One8's signature cocktails with our meal. If you are in a group, try the Collective Quaff, a concoction that serves four, which is a spectacular shade of purple made from blue pea, gin and green apple. Hands down though, the biggest conversation starter was the dessert. Beautifully presented, Textures of Coconut unites coconut jelly, chocolate soil and green coconut caviar. Passersby kept stopping by our table to ask what it was, its rapid demolition doing precious little to dissuade them.

One8 Commune
Hits: Tartare topped avocado with crispy corn, Textures of Coconut
Misses: Jalebi chaat
Pocket pinch: ₹2000 without alcohol

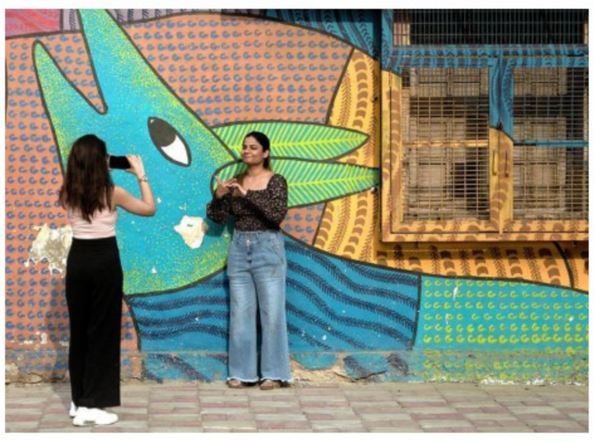
Exploring South Asia via its movies

The Bangalore Film Society (BFS) is presenting *Southasian Stories: Bridging Boundaries of Nation and Gender*, a festival in collaboration with Film Southasia (FSA), St Joseph's College of Commerce (SJCC), Gamana Women's Collective, Shramana Samskruthi, till February 15.

The film festival, with panel discussions, holds the belief that documentaries serve as a potent medium to foster introspection and inspire creative endeavours aimed at effecting change on local, national, and regional levels.

It emphasises themes such as belonging, nationhood, gender, identity, personal desires, and societal taboos integral to the cultural fabric of the region.

The chosen films, encompassing both national and international documentaries, aim to engage, educate, evoke emotions, and provoke thought on a variety of topics.



Slice of life A still from a movie to be screened at the festival.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Through screenings and accompanying discussions, the festival aims to provide a platform for reflection, critical analysis, and debate on the diverse issues that unite South Asians.

In a ground-breaking initiative, the Kathmandu-based Southasia Trust, through its entities Film Southasia and Harish-Chandra Research Institute, has sponsored six films from Nepal, Bangladesh, India, and Sri Lanka, aiming to reshape the portrayal of women and violence in regional media.

The three-day festival will showcase 10 documentaries including Prasuna Dongol's *Before You Were My Mother,* Barkha Mukhia's *Flames of a Continuous Field of Time,* Ashfaque A.M's *Face Cover, Decoding Gender* directed by Rawyan Shayema and Anam Abbas's *The Stained Dawn*.

Some of the other movies are *If I Could Tell You* directed by Niharika Popli, Bishal Roka Magar's *Gurkha Girl*, *Iqraar-Naama (The Agreement)* directed by Priyanka Chhabra, Madhulika Jalali's Ghar *Ka* Pata *(Home Address)* and Taangh *(Longing)* directed by Bani Singh.

The films will be presented in Nepali, Manipuri, Newari, Maithili, Bhojpuri, Urdu, Hindi, Tamil, English, and select films with Indian Sign Language and English subtitles.

The festival also includes discussions on February 14 and 15, on the topics *Sounds of Silence: The Politics of Language* and *Listening* and *Notions of Home and Belonging: Perspectives from the Region*.

Some of the panellists include Charu Narang, Manju S.K, Niharika Popli, Kiran Nayak, Bani Singh, Madhulika Jalali, Priyanka Chhabra, Ashfaque A.M, and moderators Laxmi Murthy and Dheepa Dhanra.

Southasian Stories: Bridging Boundaries of Nation and Gender is on till February 15, between 10am and 4.30pm, at St Joseph's College of Commerce, Brigade Road.

Entry free and open to all who register at www.bangalorefilmsociety.com/southasian-stories.

CITYBEATS

Raising a 'roast' for love

FEBRUARY 14
To celebrate Valentine's Day, The Kind Roastery & Brew Room has come up with a range of desserts – red velvet and white chocolate cookies and Aunty Elma's red velvet cake. As always, the menu will include coffee, tea and fresh bakes to accompany the new desserts.
The Kind Roastery & Brew is in JP Nagar.

Like a love song

FEBRUARY 14
Suzy Q is offering a special menu with newly crafted desserts such as bleeding heart and raspberry romance. New cocktails include lady in pink, mon amour and sweet surrender. Priced at ₹700 upwards plus taxes, the venue will also have a live performance by Aakarsh and Muriel.
Call 47250088 to book a table.

Love is in the menu

FEBRUARY 14
Roxie is collaborating with Samsara to curate a special menu for Valentine's Day. Their cosy ambience only adds to the charm of their special cocktails and lavish menu amidst live music. Couples, who register through Zomato, can avail a discount.
At Haralur Main Rd, near HP Petrol Station, Amblipura, HSR Layout

HC pulls up Karnataka govt. for not starting probe against contractors

Court says that it will order the release of entire amount due to the contractors without permitting the inquiry to go on further if the same is not completed within six weeks; report sought before the next hearing on April 2

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Castigating the State government for not moving an inch further since August 2023 on holding inquiries against alleged illegality by contractors in executing works, the High Court of Karnataka made it clear that it will order the release of the entire amount due to the contractors without permitting the inquiry to go on further if the same is not completed within six weeks from Tuesday.

Expresses shock

The court also expressed shock over "not moving a spec of papers after setting up of the one-man inquiry commission despite specific directions issued by the court on December 13, 2023, to complete the inquiry within 45 days and submit the report to the court."

Justice M. Nagaprasanna made these observations while hearing petitions filed by Nikshep Infra Projects and 44 other contractors questioning the legality of the inquiry and delay in the release of thousands of crores of rupees due to them despite the issuance of completion certificates by the competent authority about satisfactory completion of civil works long ago.

If the same scenario continues further, then the court will have "no option but to conclude that the government's decision to hold the inquiry is nothing but a sham," the court observed orally while directing the government to complete the inquiry through the commission and submit the report before the next date of hearing on April 2.

Earlier, Advocate-General Shashi Kiran Shetty admitted that there was "some delay" in presenting documents before the commission and pointed out that the nodal officer was appointed only on December 26, 2023, and he presented the documents before the commission on January 9 after collecting from various zones of the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike.

However, the commission asked the nodal officer to submit all the documents in a particular format and this took more time in submitting documents, which so far has not held any proceedings of inquiry, the A-G said.

Mr. Shetty also clarified to the court that the continuation of the inquiry before the commission has nothing to do with any payment to be made to the petitioner-contractors in terms the undertaking given to the court in December, and the part payments are being released on a seniority basis. However, the advocate for some of the petitioner-contractors has said that the government has not yet paid paid 75% of the total amount due to all the petitioners.

Recovery proceedings

The contractors have complained in their petitions that the government's action of non-payment has resulted in banks initiating recovery proceedings against them for non-payment of loan which they had borrowed for executing the government's works secured through tenders.

ED: Bharath Reddy mobilised ₹42 cr. before Assembly polls

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Directorate of Enforcement (ED) that had raided multiple premises linked to Ballari City Congress MLA Nara Bharath Reddy on February 10, has now claimed that crucial evidence it uncovered during the raids indicated "he mobilised approximately ₹42 crore in cash over a few months, just before the Assembly elections, utilising the funds for unlawful transactions".

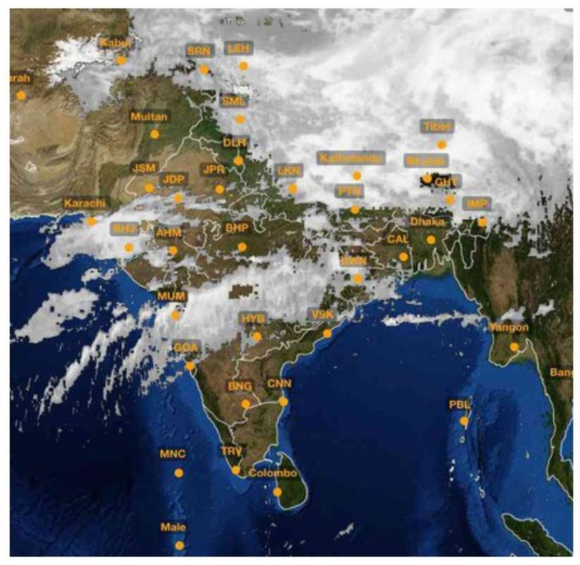
The ED said it initiated an investigation against Surya Narayana Reddy, Mr. Bharath Reddy, and others under the provisions of the Prevention of the Money Laundering Act (PMLA), 2002, on the basis of an FIR registered by the Gandhi Nagar police station, Ballari, Karnataka.

The raids led to seizure of incriminating documents, business records, and details of both immovable and movable properties and unaccounted cash of ₹31 lakh, "establishing involvement of Bharath Reddy, his personal assistant Rathna Babu, and others in mobilising substantial amounts of cash for illegal payments," the ED said in a statement issued on Tuesday.

The ED claimed in the statement that the investigation also revealed that "Sharath Reddy (brother of Mr. Bharath Reddy) made undisclosed investments in foreign-based companies.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Thunderstorm with lightning likely at isolated places over Bihar, Jharkhand, Sikkim and West Bengal. Dense fog conditions likely in isolated pockets of Odisha. Squally wind likely to prevail over Comorin area and adjoining Gulf of Mannar

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	28.9	13.0	Kozhikode	—	35.5	24.5
Ahmedabad	—	28.8	16.2	Kurnool	—	35.8	20.0
Aizawl	—	27.1	8.0	Lucknow	0.4	25.0	14.0
Allahabad	28	20.4	15.0	Madurai	—	34.7	22.6
Bengaluru	—	31.0	17.2	Mangaluru	—	34.1	22.4
Bhopal	—	27.3	15.0	Mumbai	—	32.2	17.5
Bhubaneswar	—	32.8	19.1	Mysuru	—	32.0	16.0
Chandigarh	—	24.2	11.4	New Delhi	—	22.8	8.3
Chennai	—	32.1	24.3	Patna	0.2	23.5	14.2
Coimbatore	—	32.9	20.8	Port Blair	—	30.9	25.2
Dehradun	—	24.6	11.0	Puducherry	—	32.2	22.8
Gangtok	—	15.2	7.6	Pune	—	34.0	16.2
Goa	—	32.5	21.6	Raipur	—	31.8	19.9
Guwahati	—	29.0	11.4	Ranchi	5.5	19.8	16.0
Hubballi	—	35.0	19.0	Shillong	—	18.6	7.3
Hyderabad	—	33.3	18.6	Shimla	—	17.2	7.5
Imphal	—	26.1	7.5	Srinagar	—	15.5	-2.5
Jaipur	—	25.0	11.8	Thiruvananthapuram	—	35.5	24.0
Kochi	—	32.6	24.6	Tiruchi	—	33.5	22.4
Kohima	—	17.9	6.7	Vijayawada	—	31.4	21.2
Kolkata	—	28.5	18.2	Visakhapatnam	—	30.7	21.7

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO₂	NO₂	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	6	26	99	210	133	
Bengaluru	17	11	12	170	73	
Chennai	28	32	87	45	55	
Delhi	37	200	34	404	401	
Hyderabad	2	32	39	35	120	
Kolkata	21	106	43	258	177	
Lucknow	12	77	31	207	193	
Mumbai	—	53	37	218	162	
Pune	95	121	113	119	105	
Visakhapatnam	12	33	34	76	96	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 362 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu recorded a healthy AQI score of 31

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO₂: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO₂: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

KPSC imbroglio: Appointment of head of legal cell approved

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A week after Secretary of the Karnataka Public Service Commission (KPSC) K.S. Lathakumari, who had opposed the selection of the head of legal cell (HLC), went on leave, the selection was approved at a meeting held here on Tuesday.

A majority of the 11 members, including the Chairman, resolved to appoint retired judge S.B. Vastradmath as the HLC at a meeting which was also attended by Rakesh Kumar, who has been appointed as in-charge Secretary after Ms. Lathakumari went on leave. She had opposed the selection stating that the process was not in order and had even issued a second notification inviting fresh applications. The second notification that fixed the last date for applying as February 17 had already attracted around 10 applications. The second notification was withdrawn on Tuesday.

The tug of war between the Secretary, and Chairman Shivashankarappa Sahukar, and six other members, over the recruitment of the HLC, had brought the commission activities to a standstill for nearly two months. They had stayed away from meetings since December first week stating that unless the HLC identified by the three-member committee headed by the Chairman was approved they would not attend the meetings. Ms. Lathakumari in a written communication to the government had accused the KPSC Chairman of forcing the earlier HLC out of his post as he had refused to give his opinion to foot the personal legal fee of the Chairman on the KPSC account. She had also informed the government that the selection process of the new HLC was not transparent and had accused the Chairman of selecting the person that he wants.

Government of Karnataka - Karnataka Forest Department
Office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sagar Forest Division, Sagar
e-mail ID: dcfsagar123@gmail.com
No.: A2/BGT/KFDF(Bamboo)/CR/05/23-24 Date: 08.02.2024
Short-Term e-Tender Notification
(Through e-Procurement Portal)
Tender is invited through e-procurement portal in two cover system from interested Contractors for undertaking advance works including growing of Paddy and Bamboo Saplings in 8x12 size polythene bags in Anandapuram Zone Choradi and Urban Zones in the limits of Sagar Regional Forest Department for the year 2024-25 and date is fixed on 15.02.2024 up to 4.30 PM. This office can be contacted for further information and details regarding the Tender can be obtained through official website http://kppp.karnataka. gov.in
Sd/- (Santhosh Kumar Kenchappanavar, IFS)
Deputy Conservator of Forests, Sagar Forest Division, Sagar
DIPR/smg/No.96/02/ksmca/23-24/1248

DISTRICT SURVEILLANCE UNIT
DISTRICT HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE OFFICE
CHAMARAJANAGARA
B. Rachaiah Double Road, Behind District Hospital, Chamarajanagara - 571313
☎ 08226-226561, Email : dsuch_nagar@yahoo.co.in
No : DHFW/DSO/CHN/01/2023-24 Date : 09-02-2024
E-TENDER NOTIFICATION
This is to notify that Tender has been invited to procure Medical equipments/ Furniture to various Health and Wellness center which come under Chamarajanagara District. Tender has been invited through E-Procurement portal No/DHFW/DSO/CHN/01/2023-24, Dated: 09/02/2024 Bid document submission date from 9/02/2024 To 26/02/2024. Prebid meeting is on 17/02/2024. Bid opening date is on 27/02/2024 Tender documents records is available in E-Procurement portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** Interested bidders can register in E- Procurement portal with in 26/02/2024. Contact Office for more information and details.
Tender amount Rs: 1,22,85,328
Sd/- District Surveillance Officer, Chamarajanagara Dist. Chamarajanagara
DIPR: CHANAGAR:392:2023-24

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Assistant Commissioner(Elections), Head Office, BBMP, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-500002.
No.:BBMP/2023-24/IND0029 Date:12.02.2024
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through GoK KPP Portal only)
Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike invites Short Term Tender for supply of Election Stationaries Materials pertaining to Parliamentary Elections 2024, to ADEO CENTRAL BBMP from eligible bidders.

Tender Reference No.	**BBMP/2023-24/IND0029**
Date of Commencement downloading of documents from e-procurement portal	**from 12.02.2024 onwards.**
Last date and time for uploading Online queries in KPP Portal	**14.02.2024 upto 5.00 p.m.**
Last date and time for uploading of tenders in KPP Portal	**20.02.2024 upto 5.00 p.m.**
Date and Time of Online Opening of Technical Bids	**21.02.2024 upto 5.10 p.m.**

Tender documents may be downloaded from the web site of GoK KPP Portal **https:/kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Other details can be seen in the tender documents.
Sd/- Assistant Commissioner (Elections)

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)
No.: CEE/TZ/KLB/SEE(O)/AEE-5/2023-24/15269 Date: 07.02.2024
TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)
Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited invites bids from the eligible bidders for the following work:
Bid Enquiry No: CEE/TZ/KLB/SEE(O)/AEE-5/2023-24/ Nirna Lines & TB Dated : 08.02.2024 for Construction of 110kV LILO line to existing 110/11kV Nirna sub-station from existing 110kV **Manna-E-Khelli - Chincholi** line for a distance of 1.406kms along with construction of Terminal Bays at 110kV **Nirna** sub-station in Humnabad Taluka, Bidar District. on TTK basis. Amount put to tender : **Rs. 3,99,95,798/-**
The Bids will be received through KPP portal only. The detailed Notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink 'E Procurement KPTCL' or to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in on or after 08.02.2024.** Any other details can be obtained from the office of the undersigned during office hours.
Sd/- Chief Engineer Electy, Transmission Zone, Prasarana Bhavana, KPTCL,Sedam Road, Kalaburagi.

Govt. of Karnataka
District Office, Backward Classes Welfare Department, Mangaluru -575004
e-mail- dobcmdakshinakannada@gmail.com Ph.: (0824) 2225078.
BCWD/VNB-/CR-49/2022-23 Date:-09-02-2024
ದಕ್ಷಿಣ ಕನ್ನಡ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ಹಿಂದುಳಿದ ವರ್ಗಗಳ ಕಲ್ಯಾಣ ಇಲಾಖೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಬರುವ ಕಛೇರಿಗಳು, ವಿದ್ಯಾರ್ಥಿ ನಿಲಯಗಳು, ಆಶ್ರಮ ಶಾಲೆಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಮೊರಾರ್ಜಿ ದೇಸಾಯಿ ವಸತಿ ಶಾಲೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾಲಿ ಇರುವ ಡಾಟಾ ಎಂಟ್ರಿ ಆಪರೇಟರ್ ಮತ್ತು ವಿವಿಧ ವೃಂದದ ಗ್ರೂಪ್ ಡಿ ಹುದ್ದೆಗಳಾದ ಅಡುಗೆಯವರು, ಅಡುಗೆ ಸಹಾಯಕರು, ಜವಾನರು, ರಾತ್ರಿ ಕಾವಲುಗಾರರು, ಸ್ವಚ್ಛತಾ ಸಿಬ್ಬಂದಿಗಳ ಸೇವೆಯನ್ನು ಹೊರ ಸಂಪನ್ಮೂಲದ ಏಜೆನ್ಸಿಯ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಪಡೆಯುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ
: ಇ-ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ :
E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
Calendar of Events

1	Tender Reference No. and date	**BCWD/VNB-/CR-49/2022-23, Dt-09-02-2024**
2	Amount put to Tender	**Rs.7,00,00,000/-**
3	Last date & Time for submission of Tender	**19-02-2024**
4	Date & Time of opening of Technical bid	**22-02-2024**
5	Date & Time of opening of Financial Bid	**After Technical Bid Approval**
6	EMD Amount	**Rs.17,50,000/-**
7	Venue of opening of tenders & address for communication.	DISTRICT OFFICER, BACKWARD CLASSES WELFARE DEPARTMENT, BEJAI-KAPIKAD, ANEGUNDI ROAD, D.K. District, Mangalore Ph:-0824-2225078

Interested eligible bidders registered in e-procurement portal can download the bid documents by visiting the web site **http://e-proc.karnataka.gov.in**
Sd/-
District Office
Backward Classes Welfare Department
Dakshina Kannada, Mangaluru
DIPR / MNG / 1306 / MPL / 23-24

Karnataka Public works Department.
Tumkur Division, Karnataka Telephone: 0816-2272479,
No;EE/KPWD/Tmk/AE.2/T.No.24/2023-24 Dt: 07.02.2024
Invitation For Tenders (IFT) KW. 3
e-TENDER NOTIFICATION
On behalf of Government of Karnataka tenders are invited in Two cover system for Class-3 & above Contractors registered in PWD for 02 works under 5054- Appendix-E Works Head of accounts in the jurisidiction of Tumkur Division through e-procurement. The dates are published as below. (Max Amount Put to Tender Rs. 84.53 Lakhs, Min Amount Put to Tender Rs. 84.25 Lakhs, Max EMD Amt Rs.1,69,100/- Min EMD Amt Rs. 1,68,500/-)
1. Last date for tender information enqueries: 21-02-2024: 16.00. 2. Last date for submission of tender: 22-02-2024 : 16.00 3. Date of opening the Technical bid.: 23-01-2024 :16.30. 4. Date of opening the Financial bid.: 26-01-2024 : 11.00. Note: Turnover Certificate without UDI Number will not be considered
Sd/- EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PWD DIVISION, TUMKUR.
DIPR/TUM/528/KSMCA/2023-24

Public Notice
This is to inform the General Public that my client intends to purchase / acquire the property described in the schedule here to below free from all encumbrances from its respective owners mentioned and described in the schedule hereunder. The Owners represents and warrants that they are the absolute owners of their respective properties .
Any person or persons, having any claim, interest or right on the property described in the Schedule written hereunder or any part thereof by way of any litigation(s) pending before any court or tribunal or governmental or statutory authority or by way of inheritance, sale ,exchange, mortgage, lien, pledge, gift, trust, bequest, possession, lease charge, easement, grant, tenancy or encumbrance howsoever or otherwise is hereby required to intimate the same to the undersigned in writing within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this notice of his/her/its claim, if any, with all supporting documents, failing which the transaction shall be completed without reference to such claim/s, and the claims, if any of such person (s) shall be treated as waived and not binding on my client.
SCHEDULE PROPERTY
All that piece and parcel of the residential converted land totally ad-measuring 6 Acres 28 Guntas situated at Lakkur village, Lakkur Hobli, Malur Taluk, Kolar District.

Sl. No	Sy. No	Extent A	Extent G	OWNERS NAME	BOUNDARIES East by	West by	North by	South by
1.	275/2	1	12	M. Gopalakrishna S/o. Late Muniswamappa	Sy.No 275/3	Sy.No 274	Sy.No 275/1	Sy.No 275/3
2.	275/3	2	0	M Sreenivas S/o.Late Muniswamappa	Sy.No 276	Sy.No 275/1, 275/2	Sy.No 283	Sy.No Remaing portion of 275/3
3.	275/3	3 A 16G (Out of 4 Acres 11 Guntas)		M Sreenivas S/o.Late Muniswamappa, M. Gopalakrishna S/o. Late Muniswamappa, M. Subramanyam S/o.Late Muniswamappa, M. Sundarmurthy S/o.Late Muniswamappa	Sy.No 276	Sy.No 275/1, 275/2, 274	Sy.No 283	Sy.No 273, 277 and Muthuraya swamy temple road

AHMED KHAN. Advocate.
Court opp: Road, Maruthi Extension, 2" Stage, Malur-563130.
Ph.No:**9606680854**
Date : 13.02.2024
Place : Malur

KARNATAKA FOREST DEPARTMENT
Office of the Assistant Conservator of Forest, Wildlife Sub-Division, Kanakapura E-mail : acfkkpwl@gmail.com
No. : A.C.F./W.S.D./E-Tender/CR-05/2023-24 Date : 08-02-2024
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION (3nd Call)
During the year 2023-24 tender has been called through E-procurement to taken up the **Rail's Transportation and Erection of Railway Barricade in Sangam Wildlife Range of Cauvery Wildlife Sanctury.** Interested registered contractors can participate in the Tender through E-procurement portal **(https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in)** for further details can contact the under signed Office in the Office hours.
Sd/- Assistant Conservator of Forest, Wildlife Sub-Division, Kanakapura.
DIPR/Ramanagar/457/Manipal/2023-24

Karnataka Government
(Urban Department)
District Urban Development Cell
Office of the Deputy Commissioner,
Mandya District, Mandya
E-Mail:dudc_mnd@yahoo.co.in Ph No.08232-231111
No:MUN(7)17/2021-22 Date:12-02-2024
SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through e-procument portal only)
As per KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 tender is invited Developments and Construction of Roads, Drain and other works in below in the ULBs Limits Mandya District under Amrutha Nagarothana (Municipality)-4. Eligible Contractors may apply through e-procurement Portal **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in.**
Sl. No : 01. Work Name : **Mandya, CMC - DMA/2023-24/ RD/ WORK_INDENT 14420**. Estimate Cost (Rs.in lakhs) : **494.99.** Tender Amount (Rs.in lakhs) (Excluding GST) : **419.18.** EMD Amount : **6.30.** Class : **Class -1. Sl. No : 02.** Work Name : **Malavalli, TMC - DMA/2023-24/ OW/ WORK_INDENT 14544.** Estimate Cost (Rs.in lakhs): **207.20.** Tender Amount (Rs.in lakhs) (Excluding GST) : **175.17.** EMD Amount : **3.11.** Class : **Class -2 and above Sl. No : 03.** Work Name : **Nagamangala, TMC - DMA/ 2023-24/ OW/WORK_INDENT 14641.** Estimate Cost (Rs.in lakhs): **159.65.** Tender Amount (Rs.in lakhs) (Excluding GST) : **134.90.** EMD Amount : **2.39.** Class : **Class 3 and above. Sl. No : 04.** Work Name : Belluru, TP - DMA/2023-24/RD/ WORK_INDENT 14424. Estimate Cost (Rs.in lakhs) : **65.94.** Tender Amount (Rs.in lakhs) (Excluding GST) : **54.87.** EMD Amount : **1.30.** Class : **Class 3 and above**.As per SL.No.1 and 2 Last Date of Tenders submission:27-02-2024 Up to 5.30 pm, Date of Opening of Technical Bid:29-02-2024, 11.00 AM As per SL.No.3 and 4 Last Date of tender submission Dated:20-02-2024, 5.30 PM, Date of Opening Technical Bid Dated:22.02.2024, 11.00 AM Pre Bid Meeting Date:16.02.2024 11.00am. Details contact Technical Section District Urban Development Cell, Deputy Commissioner Office, Mandya District Mandya in working hours on working day and also through e-procurement website: **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in**
Note: Any changes in the calendar of events and Tender conditions will be notified through e-procurement portal only.
Sd/-Executive Engineer, DUDC, Mandya
DIPR/AD-MDY/KSMCA/537/2023-24

Homeward bound

Quiet diplomacy without brinkmanship helped India's case in Qatar

The release of all eight former Indian naval personnel from Qatar, just about three months after they were ordered a shocking death sentence, is a matter of great relief. Ever since the eight men – seven senior retired naval officers, and a sailor – who worked for the Qatar-based Dahra technologies, were arrested in 2022, the details of their case have been sparse. While their families denied reports that the men had been accused of espionage, possibly for a third country, namely Israel, the charges must have been serious enough to have invoked the death penalty. An appeals court did, in December, commute the death penalty to imprisonment terms, but upheld the conviction. It is to the government's credit that it was able to bring about the release of all the eight, seven of whom have now returned. The success seems attributable to the strategies New Delhi employed: to pursue the case in court, showing respect to the Qatari legal system, while providing the accused with full legal support and counsel; avoid all escalatory rhetoric and public sparring; and, to take the case to the highest levels, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi discussing it with the Qatari Amir, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani, during a meet in Dubai in December. That Mr. Modi announced an unscheduled leg of travel to Doha on Wednesday, after his ongoing trip to the United Arab Emirates, signifies his personal involvement and his desire to thank the Qatari Amir.

The Qatar case is a timely reminder of the importance of quiet diplomacy at a time of brinkmanship and geopolitical conflict, particularly when it comes to relationships where so much else is at stake. For India, Qatar is an important West Asian power, with increased heft during the Israel-Gaza conflict as an important interlocutor between the West and Hamas. For Qatar, ties with India are historic and dependable, consistent even when Qatar was boycotted by its Gulf neighbours some years ago. Qatar supplies India with a third of its natural gas import needs, and the signing of a $78 billion LNG deal last week may have been an early sign that the deal for the prisoners' release had been sealed by then. More than 8,00,000 Indians provide important services to Qatar and bring in critical remittance earnings for India. New Delhi's decision not to seek international intervention, as it did in the case of former naval commander Kulbhushan Jadhav, who has been convicted of espionage and terror charges in Pakistan, nor to counter Qatar's charges with the kind of harsh diplomatic countermeasures seen in the aftermath of the Nijjar assassination case in Canada, eventually provided an outcome satisfactory for all.

Salutary reminder

Inflation should not undermine overall macroeconomic stability

Retail inflation data for January provides a clear reminder as to why the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee opted last week to not only hold benchmark interest rates but also chose to remain resolutely focused on achieving durable price stability. While the data for Consumer Price Index-based price gains show the headline number having eased from December's 5.69% to a three-month low of 5.10% last month, inflation readings for key food items including cereals, vegetables and pulses continued to stay elevated at 7.83%, 27% and 19.5%, respectively, despite moderating from December's levels. Among the vegetables sub-group, 12 of the 19 items monitored by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE) posted accelerations in year-on-year price gains last month from their readings in December, signalling that the underlying trend in inflation is persistently high. Cereals, which have the heaviest weight in the food group, also stayed stubbornly stuck in a higher trajectory, with the month-on-month inflation for the sub-group that includes the key staple of rice, barely nudging lower at 0.75%, compared with December's 0.76%. Rice was the primary drag, with its price at non-PDS outlets accelerating both sequentially and on-year, by 1.02% and a six-month high pace of 13%, respectively. With a recent CMIE estimate for *rabi* sowing of rice, revealing a 2.7% drop from last year, the prospect of prices softening significantly in the near future appears remote.

The data on reservoir storage levels also add to the disquiet on the outlook for prices, particularly of food items. With water storage at 150 reservoirs showing live storage as on February 8 at 49% of capacity, and lagging appreciably behind both the year-earlier and average of the last 10-years levels, output of the *rabi* sown crops, including cereals and more particularly pulses, are at risk of being impacted. Given food's large share in the overall consumption basket, food price gains pose a wider risk to overall price stability, both directly and through spillover to the prices of non-food items, as a research article by RBI officials concluded. The central bank's survey of households' inflation expectations found the median inflation expectation for three months ahead rose by 10 bps from the previous survey in November to 9.2%, with a greater share of respondents – 78% versus 74% two months ago – expecting inflation to accelerate in the near term. With talks between the government and some farmers' groups breaking down and farmers threatening to intensify an agitation over demands that include assurances on a guaranteed minimum support price, policymakers face a challenge to ensure inflation does not rebound and undermine overall macroeconomic stability.

The wrong cooks spoiling the scientific broth

Manu Rajan

is an information scientist who retired recently from the Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru

While religion is a sacred cow that doubles up as a cash cow, science is a cash cow that can often double up as a sacred cow in India. The popular belief is that a good dose of science in our educational system makes students intelligent, unprejudiced good citizens and inculcates objectivity and other "scientific qualities of mind" in them.

Yet, our institutions are flush with scientists with quarter-cooked scientific temper: power often has the upper hand over knowledge even within these scientific cantonments. The only knowledge that flows freely in our country is that from the barrel of the American journal. All other knowledge remains locked up as grey matter in our human resources. Information and knowledge want to be free, but any such 'misadventure' is instantly thwarted by the powers that be, brandishing a *sengol* in one hand and a sword in the other. A scholarly paper on the "giant gravity hole in the Indian Ocean" scores way above one dealing with the perennially recurring froth in Bellandur lake in Bengaluru. The frothing lake does not attract as many eyeballs as the ocean: the taste buds of the American journal are distinctly American.

Climb down the ivory tower

The travails of Bellandur, like the threats posed by developments such as artificial intelligence, should be forcing science to slow down its agenda based on a pursuit motivated by quick rewards and a misguided curiosity. The time has come for a large chunk of scientific forces to be re-deployed on the science-society border to scout for solutions to real-life problems. The new road is arduous and bumpy: while the space scientist can look up at the sky and continue romancing the moon, her earthly counterpart needs to climb down from the ivory tower where he has been ensconced tied to the 'scientific method', mingle with the crowd below, and get his hands dirty.

The majority of scientists trained in specific disciplines are content to solve puzzles by applying whichever theory is currently predominant in their discipline. A discipline acts like a lens: it filters out certain phenomena to be able to focus exclusively on others. Such scientists produce quantifiable results through simplified models and experiments that do not consider input from outside the sciences and overlook the social embeddedness of their activities.

The scientific method is based on beliefs in empiricism, replicability, and free exchange of information (so that others can test or attempt to replicate). It has predominantly followed the strategy of reductionism: an approach to understanding the whole of something by examining its parts (such as explaining heat in terms of the motion of molecules). But the reductionist approach cannot succeed in all cases. We can make sense of some things only by looking at them holistically. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts: the whole contains properties that cannot in principle be discovered through an analysis of its parts.

> The time has come for many of India's scientific forces to scout for solutions to the country's real-life problems

In the real world, it is often difficult to untangle a complicated web of causal relationships to determine which one is decisive. Relying only on individual disciplines to confront real-life problems provides a skewed perspective. If humans need to be served by science, science needs to be subservient to humans. Science then must confront the uncomfortable prospect of dealing with human complexities: diverse languages, vocabularies, world views, value systems, beliefs, faiths and cultures.

Many real-life problems call for practical knowledge generated to solve them long before there is enough research to establish an irrefutable point. The goal of achievement of truth or even full factual knowledge becomes a luxury. The boundary between subjectivity and objectivity becomes blurred. Ignorance, assumptions, value systems, uncertainty in fixing system boundaries and formulating problems, indeterminacy and differences in culture have all to be dealt with in the new regime. The carefully structured rule-based turf of normal science or faithful adherence to theoretical principles or agreed upon methodologies is of limited value in solving such complex problems. The natural sciences then need to work in tandem with human sciences.

The human sciences explain phenomena in terms of meanings and purposes rather than mechanical causes and effects. If you want to figure out what a group of people are up to, you cannot simply observe their physical movements; you must try to get 'inside their heads' and understand how they see the situation. The social sciences focus on behaviour: psychology seeks internal explanations while economics, sociology and political science seek explanations that are external to the individual.

Tap the humanities

The disciplines encompassed by the humanities – art and art history, history, literary studies, music and music education, philosophy, and religious studies – offer strategies for addressing dilemmas and acknowledging ambiguity and paradox. They provide tools for logical analysis and modes of discussing and debating moral and ethical questions.

Philosophy has interacted fruitfully with business and medicine on issues of ethics and reproductive technologies as well as with social scientists who are interested in rational choice theory. A wide variety of phenomena such as the debates on abortion and euthanasia, human cloning, stem cell research, terrorism and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict have a religious component. The humanities are organised around the production of qualitative knowledge arrived at through sound argument rather than the empirical testing of theories. Other sources that facilitate addressing real-life problems include oral histories, eye-witness testimonies, artifacts, artistic creations, and forms of tacit knowledge.

A variety of perspectives and methods from different disciplines need to be brought to bear on a complex real-life problem. Connections need to be made between problems and disciplines, between problems and theories, and between problems and accumulated knowledge. All the relevant disciplines and their conflicting insights need to be identified, evaluated, and common ground created among them. An integrative model is then constructed that proposes a realistic solution to the problem. Science leaves this kind of integration of knowledge from other sources out of the "scientific method" altogether.

A traditional puzzle solver scientist is like the mediocre artist who starts with a clearly visualised picture in mind and ends up painting it without leaving any scope for growth and change during the process. The knowledge integration required to address complex real-life problems is, on the contrary, akin to that followed by a highly creative artist who starts painting with a general and often vague idea of what she wants to accomplish and discovers as she goes along what it is that she wants to do, using feedback from the developing work to suggest new approaches.

Questions to be asked

Are our scientists battle ready for this new role? Do our scientists possess the personality traits to work in collaboration with other disciplines? Will they recognise the ability of common citizens to become both critics and co-creators in knowledge production as part of an extended peer community? Will our scientists learn to live with and plan for contingencies: of managing complexity, uncertainty, and risk? Will they be able to think abstractly and dialectically?

Will our scientific institutions have linkages with external communities to foster multidirectional knowledge flows? Design incentives for sharing knowledge beyond publications? Will our scientists embrace all the elements of a proper scientific temper that must include humility and a yearning to learn lessons from the past and from other co-participants? Engage in cross-cultural conversation? Recognise different forms of knowledge – traditional, local, explicit, tacit? Adopt a humanistic approach to problem solving?

Are our scientists ready to let go of the *sengol* and the sword? Will they engage with other professionals and citizens and make a beginning by harnessing the diverse and dispersed forms of knowledge that are needed to address problems that impact their immediate neighbourhood and beyond? For Indian science and the public at large, that would be the best thing to happen since the invention of *dal-roti*.

Old-fashioned trust and credibility bind India-UAE ties

Navdeep Suri

was India's Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates

At a time when diplomacy is widely regarded as transactional, the deeply personal relationship between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) stands out as something of an old-world construct.

It is a bond where trust and credibility outweigh diplomatic reciprocity and protocol, where a convergence of strategic interests is bolstered by regular interactions to lay the foundations of one of India's most dynamic and consequential bilateral relationships.

Much of this is on display during Mr. Modi's ongoing visit to the UAE for the third time in barely eight months. He had made a bilateral visit in July 2023 followed by one for COP28 in November, where he was given the rare honour of being the only visiting dignitary to address the ceremonial opening session. Sheikh Mohamed was in Delhi in September for the G-20 Summit as one of India's special invitees, returning in January 2024 to participate in the Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit as chief guest.

A visit with substance

The timing of this visit is, in a sense, unique because it has been determined by the religious calendar for the inauguration of the grand Hindu temple in Abu Dhabi. The Prime Minister's presence will also serve as a reminder that it was during his first visit in August 2015 that he had requested the country's leadership to provide land for a temple that would meet the religious and spiritual needs of the UAE's large Hindu community. There is little doubt that the temple inauguration on February 14 has created excitement among the 3.5 million strong Indian community in the UAE. There was also the mega event dubbed Ahlan (Welcome) Modi at the Zayed Sports City Stadium in Abu Dhabi.

While the inauguration of the temple and the spectacle of Ahlan Modi will undoubtedly dominate the headlines, it should not detract anything from the other substantive aspects of this visit. These include the Prime Minister's address as guest of honour at the 11th World Government Summit in Dubai.

> A convergence of strategic interests and regular interactions have resulted in one of India's most dynamic and consequential bilateral relationships

Often billed as Dubai's version of Davos, this is a major annual conference that attracts government leaders, heads of international organisations, captains of industry and thought leaders from around the world. The focus of this year's summit is on 'Shaping Future Governments' and gives India a platform to put forth its own views before an influential global audience.

Strengthening economic ties

Mr. Modi is also expected to kick off the much-anticipated Bharat Mart, a key initiative of Dubai-based DP World and India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry to boost exports of Indian Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises by providing them retail, warehousing and logistics facilities in Dubai's Jebel Ali Free Zone Area. DP World will build around 800 showrooms and 18 warehouses over the next 24 months on a 1.3 million square feet plot to allow Indian manufacturers of machinery, electrical and electronics products, auto components, medical equipment, furniture, apparel, processed foods, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, and handicrafts to showcase their products and access buyers and markets in Iran, Central Asia, Africa and the Middle East.

The Bharat Mart project comes on the heels of the ambitious India-UAE Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) which completed its first year in 2023 and has already seen India's trade with the UAE grow by 16% to $85 billion. In doing so, it has reinforced the UAE's position as India's third largest trading partner and second largest export destination.

The unique combination of CEPA and the Bharat Mart has the potential to provide a strong impetus to export of India's manufactured goods even as the initial steps to start trading in national currencies promise to reduce transaction costs. The memoranda of understanding signed at the bilateral engagement would also further strengthen the economic relationship between India and the UAE.

There are several other major achievements for which the two sides can legitimately take credit. The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi has begun its master's programme in energy transition and sustainability at its interim campus in Abu Dhabi. Rising investments from the UAE have made it the fourth highest source of foreign direct investment into India in 2022-23. The Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) will soon open an office in GIFT City, Gujarat. A 14-year deal, by Indian Oil Corporation Limited, to buy 1.2 million metric tonnes per annum of liquefied natural gas from the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company during 2026-39 has been signed to boost India's energy security. And, discussions on several sensitive areas of defence cooperation are making good progress.

Regional issues

The talks between Mr. Modi and Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed also provided an opportunity to review the deteriorating situation in the region in the context of the ongoing war in Gaza, the attacks by Houthis on shipping in the Red Sea, and the clear and present danger of an escalation. Longer shipping times, higher freight costs and a possible hike in oil prices can pose a significant risk to India's economic growth, and it is important that the government coordinates closely with a key regional player such as the UAE, along with countries such as Saudi Arabia and Egypt to make sure that India's interests are protected.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Back home

The release of eight Indian Navy veterans from prison in Qatar is a happy development with quiet diplomacy winning the day. Now that the men have been released, New Delhi must ensure that such incidents do not recur.

Gregory Fernandes,
Mumbai

Quiet diplomacy has won. The focus is now on the fate of Kulbhushan Jadhav in Pakistan, whose release India must now start working on.

K.V. Seetharamaiah,
Bengaluru

Growing bonhomie between India and Qatar, which has been nurtured by the Indian Prime Minister in recent times, has evidently played a pivotal role in ensuring the release of the men. Importantly, there is a need for India to leverage this newfound West Asian outreach in strengthening New Delhi's bilateral relations with Pakistan.

G. Ramasubramanyam,
Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh

Questions remain on what exactly the charges were that warranted such a severe penalty.
In the end, India's diplomatic win and the Prime Minister's personal attention to the matter must be leveraged to ensure that such incidents do not recur. From a broader perspective, the vast Indian diaspora in the Gulf is often treated unfairly by various institutions. India must ensure there is both justice and their well-being.

Anany Mishra,
Bhilai, Chhattisgarh

On the Governor

The Governor is the last residue of the colonial system. He has been transformed into a puppet controlled by central chains. Instead of playing politics and engaging in a blame game, he could play the role of a neutral umpire and present his advice more politely ("T.N. Governor Ravi refuses to deliver customary address", February 13).

P. David Balasingh,
Nagercoil, Tamil Nadu

Why India needs deep industrialisation

Kalaiyarasan A.

is an Assistant Professor at the Madras Institute of Development Studies, India and Visiting Research Fellow at Kings College London

The COVID-19 pandemic changed the way we think about our economic future. Globalisation is now in retreat. Industrial policy and strategic state-led economic interventions are back on the menu everywhere. The Inflation Reduction Act in the U.S., the European Green Deal, and India's Atmanirbhar Bharat are prominent examples.

India's growth momentum has sustained. India recovered relatively quickly from the pandemic, yet it has entered a phase of 'premature deindustrialisation'. The fruits of high growth were shared by a small minority, worsening pre-existing gaps. High-end cars get sold out. Common people struggle to cope with high food prices. This fault line is built into the structure of India's growth. This takes us to a long-standing question: why has India not been able to break out of industrial stagnation and generate employment? Raghuram Rajan and Rohit Lamba offer an unconventional perspective. In *Breaking the Mould: Reimagining India's Economic Future*, they bet their money not on manufacturing-led growth but on high-skill, services-driven growth.

Why break the mould now?

In 75 years, India has not been able to industrialise sufficiently. Its manufacturing share in output and employment has always been stagnant and below 20%, except during the 'Dream Run, 2003-08'. Even the 1991 economic reforms, , which came with the promise of labour-intensive industrialisation, didn't alter this reality. India is now at a crossroads. Its industrial investment is stagnating, with high levels of unemployment and chronic disguised unemployment. Its trade deficit, largely driven by imported goods, has been widening. India is not even producing the goods its consumes, let alone exporting.

In that context, Rajan and Lamba's argument to promote high-skill services powered by information technology to stimulate manufacturing is a reversal of classical wisdom, which is that services growth rests on manufacturing growth. This is at odds with India's current industrial policy and may not be the solution. In fact, it could even make things worse.

First, employment elasticity of services-led growth is poor. India's experience with services-driven growth since the late 1980s had two negative implications. First, it could not absorb the labour exiting agriculture in the same way that manufacturing would have. Second, the service sector required a large highly skilled workforce that India could not adequately supply. Even as the sector absorbed some labour which migrated to cities, it was deeply unequal. The relative wages of workers with a college degree were much higher than those without one. Inequality from services-driven growth is thus much higher than from manufacturing-led growth. The Gini index of inequality for regular wages in the services sector was 44 compared to 35 for manufacturing (Periodic Labour Force Survey, 2021-22).

Second, early investments in higher education contributed to the near abandonment of mass school education. These higher education institutions cultivated self-serving elites who played a role in India's IT "revolution" while contributing to industrial stagnation. Investments in human capital were deeply unequal from the get-go. India is one of the world's most unequal countries in terms of education. Yasheng Huang, a Chinese economist, said, "Rural entrepreneurship was able to grow out of the traditional agricultural sector on a massive scale [in China]. The rural Indian, in contrast, hampered by a poor endowment of human capital, were not able to start entrepreneurial ventures remotely on the scale of the Chinese."

Third, the returns to education differ across classes and social groups. School enrolment is high. Higher education is not as inaccessible as it was earlier. But the differential quality of schooling feeds into the quality of higher education, which feeds into labour market outcomes. The high-skill services pitch would suit the traditional elite but not the majority first generation graduates from colleges in rural areas and small towns. The majority of these students reap poor returns on their investments in education. The poor quality of most state-run schools and colleges is closely linked to the elites' renunciation of public education. Even as these fault lines are new forms of class divide in India, they reflect older ones rooted in the caste system.

A culturally rooted diagnosis

Why has industrialisation been stagnant in India? The lack of mass education meant that an important cultural prerequisite for industrialisation was missing. Economic historian Joel Mokyr suggests that the rise of useful knowledge is key to technological progress and growth in modern economies. For instance, foreign direct investment in India, which was supposed to diffuse technology, didn't take place except in some enclaves. A culture of growth also requires the revaluation of labour, production, and technology. India has looked down upon certain occupations, particularly those that are essential (electrical, welding, etc.), partly impeding organic innovation in manufacturing. Industrialists say that India undervalues the vocational skills needed for manufacturing. Certain skills are not valued even if they command higher wages. Artisanal knowledge doesn't enjoy as much social respect as scholasticism or metaphysical abstraction. Increasing returns and efficiency come from innovation and its diffusion, which are based on mass education and collective absorptive capacity. India needs deep industrialisation, not just the service sector, that has the power of changing the foundations of society.

> If economic development and not growth were India's priority, manufacturing that takes along the service sector maybe the solution to the country's problems

Balancing local and national aspirations

There is a message in the Trinamool's nominations to the Rajya Sabha

STATE OF PLAY

Shiv Sahay Singh
shivsahay.s@thehindu.co.in

The Trinamool Congress's nomination of candidates to the Rajya Sabha has been an exercise in balancing local and national aspirations ever since the party came to power in West Bengal in 2011. On February 11, when the Trinamool nominated four candidates to the Upper House, including three women, it continued a trend which it has adhered to for the past 12 years.

Mamata Bala Thakur, one of the three women nominated, is an interesting choice considering the politics over the implementation of The Citizenship (Amendment) Act (CAA), 2019, in the State, and the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. The West Bengal BJP leadership, particularly Bongaon MP and Union Minister of State for Shipping Santanu Thakur, has been promising nearly every week to implement the CAA. He has been trying to assure the electorate of the constituency bordering Bangladesh that he will fulfil what he had promised in 2019.

Mamata Bala Thakur is a two-time Lok Sabha MP from Bongaon and is the BJP MP's relative. Both she and Santanu Thakur hail from the family of the founders of the Matua sect, mostly comprising Dalits who shifted to West Bengal from East Bengal (present-day Bangladesh) without proper citizenship documents. The Matuas, who constitute one-fifth of West Bengal's Scheduled Caste population, have suffered for decades as a result. Over the past few years, the Matuas and their citizenship have been at the centre of the BJP's politics around the CAA. Mamata Bala Thakur has

been nominated to challenge the BJP's support base among the Matuas. With her nomination, the number of women Rajya Sabha MPs from the Trinamool will stand at five.

With the second candidate, Md. Nadimul Haque, who is the owner of a popular Urdu daily from Kolkata called *Akbar-E- Mashriq*, being renominated, the number of Trinamool Rajya Sabha MPs from the Muslim community will be two. One Rajya Sabha MP from the party is from the Scheduled Tribes category. This shows continuation of one of the core principles of Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's politics: to represent every major community which has a significant electoral support base. Of the 16 Rajya Sabha MPs from West Bengal, 13 are from the Trinamool, two from the BJP, and one from the CPI(M).

The recent nominations of the Trinamool to the Rajya Sabha have also been made keeping in mind the party's national ambitions. The Trinamool has been attempting to extend its footprint in Goa, Tripura, and Assam, but this has not borne much fruit yet. The party, however, has not given up on the idea of a pan-India presence and wants to have a strong voice in both Houses of Parliament.

The third candidate is Sushmita Dev who had resigned from the Congress in August 2021 and was briefly nominated by the Trinamool to the Rajya Sabha. The daughter of Assam Congress stalwart Santosh Mohan Dev, Ms. Dev was elected as an MP from the Silchar seat, a stronghold of her father. Her presence in the Trinamool is crucial to the party's plans in the Northeast, particularly Assam and Tripura.

The nomination that came as the biggest surprise to the Trinamool's rank and file was that of journalist Sagarika Ghose. The Delhi-based journalist had no connection to the party before this announcement. However, this is not the first time that Ms. Banerjee has chosen a political greenhorn with little or no connection to West Bengal to represent the State in the Rajya Sabha. Last year, the Trinamool nominated Right to Information activist Saket Gokhale to the Upper House. The Trinamool wants its MPs in the Rajya Sabha to be articulate and tackle the BJP head on, but at the same time have little say in the party's affairs and internal decision-making.

Sources in the Trinamool say that such nominations are made to avoid factionalism in the party. Nominees to the Rajya Sabha with no interest in the State's politics and in the internal functioning of the party are beneficial to the Trinamool. This is significant especially since the Trinamool is going through a period of churn. The old guard, supported by the Chief Minister, and the new leadership, led by her nephew Abhishek Banerjee, appear to be at loggerheads frequently. The Trinamool has often fielded actors from the Bengali film industry and cultural sphere to represent the party in the Lok Sabha and the State Assembly for a reason – they do not pose any threat to the existing power structure in the party.

The many lows of the 17th Lok Sabha

Data show that Parliament functioning has been generally been on a decline in the post-1990 period

DATA POINT

Ankita Dinkar

Of all the Lok Sabhas with completed terms, the 17th Lok Sabha witnessed several regrettable firsts. It was the first to not appoint a Deputy Speaker, it recorded the lowest number of sittings, it passed significant legislation such as criminal reform Bills when more than 70% of the Opposition MPs were suspended, and the Prime Minister did not answer any questions orally and only one in writing. While these developments mark a new low in parliamentary functioning, this is not an anomaly; rather, it is a trend that has continued for more than 30 years.

The annual average of Bills passed declined from 65 in the 1952-1990 period to 48 in 1991-2023. The number of Bills sent to committees for scrutiny also dwindled consistently, with the 17th Lok Sabha sending only 16% of Bills for scrutiny, the lowest in the past four Lok Sabhas. **(Chart 1)**.

The declining number of sitting days and hours in the Lok Sabha limits the scope for debates and diminishes MPs' participation. Prior to 1990, each Lok Sabha typically convened for over 550 days on average, spanning 3,500 hours. However, post-1990, an average Lok Sabha only meets for 345 days, spanning less than 1,800 hours. The 17th Lok Sabha had the least number of sittings (274). **(Chart 2).**

Parliamentary tools allow MPs to ensure executive accountability and remediate potential issues for their constituents. A half-hour discussion enables MPs to deliberate on responses to parliamentary questions. Before the 1990s, there were 88 such discussions per Lok Sabha. Post-1990, there were only 11 half-hour discussions per Lok Sabha. The 17th Lok Sabha permitted only one such discussion, marking an all-time low. Short duration discussions, permitting members to initiate discussions on matters of public importance, were prevalent before 1990, averaging 46 per Lok Sabha. Post-1990, this number diminished to 39, with the 17th Lok Sabha engaging in only 13 such discussions. Calling attention, a vital tool allowing MPs to draw attention to issues and elicit responses from ministers, was extensively used between 1957 and 1990, with an average of 300 notices allowed per Lok Sabha. Post-1990, only 40 notices have been allowed per Lok Sabha. The 17th Lok Sabha allowed only one such discussion. The adjournment motion, employed to address urgent issues with a subsequent vote, serves as an expression of disagreement with the government's policies. Pre-1990, the Lok Sabha permitted discussion and voting on four such motions on average. Post-1990, this number decreased to three. The 16th and 17th Lok Sabha allowed no adjournment motions. **(Chart 3).**

There has also been a substantial decline in the time spent on discussing the Union Budget, Ministry-wise demands, and the Finance Bill, from around 120 hours annually before 1990 to a mere 35 hours post-1990. Notably, ministry-wise demands have been passed without discussion only five times since 1952 – and all of them after 1999 **(Chart 4).**

Scholars and experts identified this trend early on, with a notable instance being a 2000 paper authored by Dr. Subhash C Kashyap, the former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha. He proposed the establishment of a Parliamentary Reforms Commission or a 'Study of Parliament Group' outside parliamentary confines. Urgent and comprehensive parliamentary reforms are imperative to restore the efficacy of parliamentary procedures and practices.

Ankita Dinkar is a Policy Researcher and Former LAMP Fellow

Concluding on a low note

The data for the charts were sourced from Statistical Handbook published by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, PRS Legislative Research, and Resume of Work Done by Lok Sabha

Chart 1: This shows the number of Bills passed (left axis) by the Lok Sabha and the % of bills scrutinised (right axis)

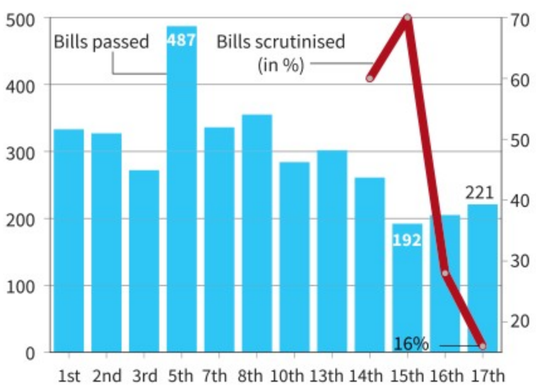


Chart 2: The chart shows the number of sittings in days (left axis) and sitting hours (right axis) per Lok Sabha

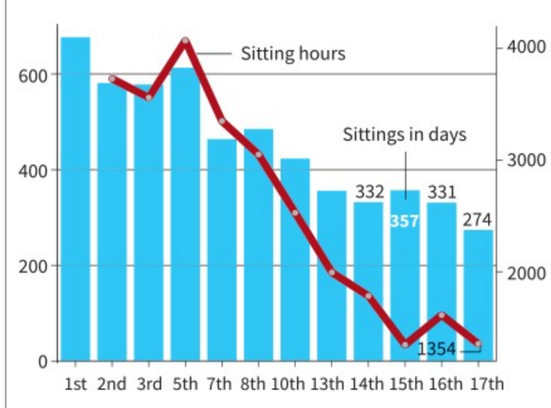


Chart 3: The chart shows the usage of various parliamentary tools per Lok Sabha

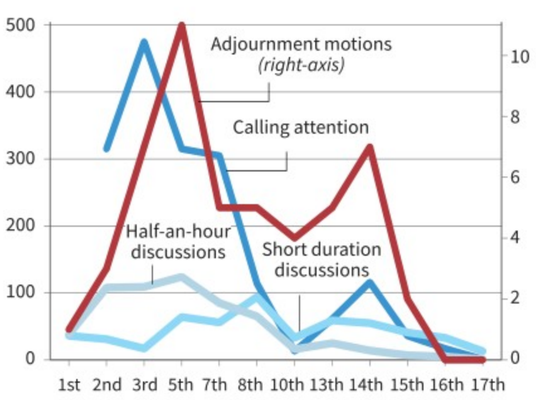
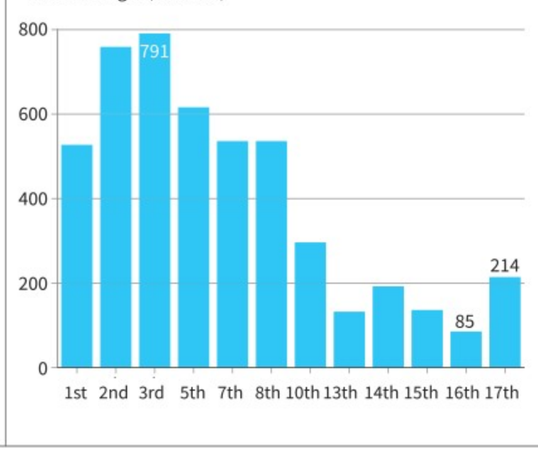


Chart 4: The chart shows the time spent on discussing the Union Budget (in hours)



FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 14, 1974

Common global strategy for tea exports planned

New Delhi, Feb. 13: India and Sri Lanka have decided to take the initiative to work out a common global strategy, in co-operation with other tea-exporting countries like Kenya, Bangladesh and Indonesia, to secure an equitable, remunerative price for the tea-producing countries in the world market, said Mr. A.G. George, Union Deputy Minister for Commerce, at a press conference here to-day.

Mr. George, who recently returned from a visit to Sri Lanka, where he had talks with the Sri Lanka Minister for Plantation Industries, Mr. Collin D' Silva, said there would be informal consultations among the tea-producing countries before the forthcoming meeting of the sub-group of the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) in Rome on June 9 on the question of remunerative prices for the exports.

The Minister said that it was decided to initiate consultations under the aegis of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries to evolve a similar strategy in respect of export prices of rubber in the context of the present energy crisis. Malaysia, Thailand, Ceylon, India and Indonesia are the members of the Association accounting for 90 per cent of the world's production of rubber.

Mr. George said that both India and Sri Lanka had recognised the urgent need to evolve a common global export strategy for tea exports. In spite of the boom in the prices of principal raw materials in the export market, the price of tea had remained relatively stagnant and had increased during the last five years only from Rs. 7.14 to Rs. 8 per kilogramme.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO FEBRUARY 14, 1924

Japanese loan

London, Feb. 12: The prospectus of the Japanese loan was issued this afternoon. Queues outside issuing banks were very active procuring prospectuses. Clerks emerged into the street with bundles of prospectuses. The prospectus mentions that 150 million dollars loan is being issued in America for the same purposes, namely, conversion and redemption of outstanding balances of the Japanese Government 4.5 per cent loans of Mureh and July 1995, and to meet expenditure on reconstruction work due to earthquake.

From Page One

Centre rules out MSP law, offers discussion

More than 100 barricades with barbed wires were set up between a seven km stretch on the Singhu border, in Kundli in Haryana. Teams of the Delhi Police and CAPF, RAPF were also deployed strategically at all points along with anti-riot gears. Some entry and exit gates of select Metro stations near important installations, including Parliament, have been shut as prohibitory orders remain in force.

Heavy police deployment was also witnessed on Delhi's borders with Uttar Pradesh. The Delhi-Noida direct flyaway, Ghazipur border and other prominent locations were under scrutiny. Movement for ambulances and other emergency vehicles was also made difficult despite the police's attempts to ensure smooth traffic flow at these borders.

Scuffle with police

Farmers had scuffle with the Haryana Police at various places along the Punjab border and the police resorted to the use of tear gas through drones and water cannons to disperse the agitators from Punjab. Farmers had come in hundreds of 'tractor-trolley' convoys by pushing and throwing away the multi-layer barricades. They were carrying essential supplies, including food, medicine, clothes etc.

Several of them tried to forcefully remove barricades and threw stones at the police personnel. Agitated farmers were also seen vandalising flyover safety barriers on the Shambhu border. According to police, 24 police personnel were injured in stone-pelting during the protest, who have been hospitalised at the government hospitals. A senior police officer confirmed to *The Hindu* that a few protesters were detained, who were later released.

KMM coordinator Sarwan Singh Pandher hit out at the Centre for attacking the farmers and farm labourers marching towards Delhi. Mr. Pandher said the farmers responded to the force by hurling stones.

Urging Mr. Modi to intervene, the SKM said in a letter to him that the repression unleashed on farmers is condemnable and added that the Kisan Movement in India is united and single-minded and will resist any such act of authoritarianism and excessive use of state power.

In an appeal to SKM-NP, the original SKM said various Kisan organisations and platforms are fighting on the same and common demands. Hence, all the like-minded organisations should make an effort to build a common and united struggle on these issues.

(With inputs from Vikas Vasudeva in Chandigarh)

Sharad Pawar files appeal in SC against EC order on party name

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder Sharad Pawar has appealed the Supreme Court against the Election Commission (EC) decision in February to recognise the faction led by his nephew Ajit Pawar as the 'real' party.

The EC had allotted NCP symbol 'wall clock' to the Ajit Pawar group, seemingly at the time to end months of factional fight within the party.

Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra Ajit Pawar has already filed a caveat through advocate Abhikalp Pratap Singh in the Supreme Court, urging to be heard before any order is passed in the special leave petition filed by the elder Pawar.

The appeal has been filed by Mr. Sharad Pawar just days ahead of the expiry of the deadline given by the Supreme Court to Maharashtra Speaker Rahul Narwekar to decide the disqualification petitions against the breakaway faction headed by Mr. Ajit Pawar. The SC had extended the deadline from January 31 to February 15.

Centre 'open' to talks with Kerala on financial woes

SC terms the readiness shown by both parties as an example of 'cooperative federalism'; a team led by Kerala Finance Minister will fly to New Delhi today to hold discussions with Union govt.

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday hailed the readiness shown by the Centre and Kerala to meet for a "dialogue" on the State's financial woes as an example of "cooperative federalism".

"The government has agreed to keep a meeting. I hope they can engage in an open dialogue," Attorney General R. Venkataramani informed a Bench of Justices Surya Kant and K.V. Viswanathan.

Senior advocate Kapil Sibal, appearing for Kerala, said a delegation from the State would fly to the capital to meet with the Central team on Wednesday itself.

Kerala Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal told *The Hindu* on telephone from Thiruvananthapuram that a four-member delegation led by him will participate in the discussions with the Centre.

Apart from the Finance Minister, Advocate General of the State Gopalakrishna Kurup, Principal Secretary to Chief Minister K.M. Abraham and State Principal Finance Secretary Rabindra Kumar Agarwal will meet the representatives from the Centre. "We welcome the Supreme Court's decision. We will participate in the discussions and present our stand," said Mr. Balagopal.

Clearing the air: Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, middle, with Finance Minister K.N. Balagopal, left, in New Delhi on Feb. 7. ANI

Justice Kant said the dialogue could identify the issues and areas of discussion.

"As for urgency, you have to tell them instead of telling us," Justice Kant told Mr. Sibal.

The court fixed the next hearing on Monday for directions.

It said an atmosphere of cordiality between the Union and the States "works for the country".

Mr. Sibal had said the financial crunch may even impact the release of provident funds and essential payments. "The elections will come now," he said.

Mr. Venkataramani had said the issue posed wide economic connotations across the country.

Undue interference

The developments came in an original suit filed by Kerala criticising the Centre of undue interference, amounting to encroachment in the legislative and executive power of the State, to manage its own affairs. In an unvarnished attack, Kerala has accused the Centre of adopting policies and making amendments in law devised to push States to a state of penury.

The Centre had hit back by accusing Kerala of being "one of the most financially unhealthy States". A note submitted by the Attorney General in the top court had said the "fiscal edifice of Kerala has been diagnosed with several cracks". The Centre had said the poor financial indicators of Kerala point to a "lack of proper management of its public finances". Mr. Venkataramani's note highlighted that debts run by States affect the credit rating of the whole country.

Kerala had responded by contending that the Union government accounted for approximately 60% of the total debt or outstanding liabilities of India. It had said all the States put together account for the rest of the 40% of the total debt of the country. The State argued that the Union had a "dismal record of reining in its own debt".

Supreme Court refuses to stay law on CEC, EC appointment

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday refused to pass any interim orders staying the operation of a new law on the appointment of Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and Election Commissioners.

Appearing before a Bench headed by Justice Sanjiv Khanna, advocate Prashant Bhushan, representing Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), said the elections were near and Election Commissioner Anup Chandra Pandey was retiring on Wednesday.

However, the Bench recalled that there were other petitions challenging the law and they had been posted for hearing in April. The court, issuing notice, said the current plea would also come up for hearing along with the others.

The new law had removed the Chief Justice of India from the committee to be replaced by a Union Cabinet Minister nominated by the Prime Minister, effectively giving the government primacy in the appointment process.

Clause in draft India-EFTA pact may hit drug industry

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

A clause in a draft free trade agreement text being negotiated between India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) could delay access to affordable, generic versions of patented drugs in India by a minimum of six years, according to documents viewed by *The Hindu*.

A leaked draft of the Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) says that within six months of the agreement being signed, signatories should include a "specific duration" during which applicants seeking consent from their country's regulators to sell a drug would not rely on "undisclosed test data" to gain market approval for at least six years.

The signatories, here, refer to the countries and applicants being the pharmaceutical companies. The "undisclosed test data", in this case, is on the drug's efficacy and impact on people.

There is also a line in the draft, which is available on the website bilaterals.org, an organisation that tracks international free trade agreements, that suggests this should apply not only to 'new' chemical drugs but also a class of drugs called 'biologics drugs,' – monoclonal antibodies, vaccine formulations – that involve complex mixtures of organic and inorganic entities, and are harder to make copies of. Many Indian biotechnology companies are developing biologics drugs.

The Hindu has independently confirmed the existence of this clause from sources following international bilateral negotiations.

India, which has over decades, mushroomed a thriving generics drug industry has resisted attempts by foreign pharmaceutical companies to extend monopoly rights over patented drugs. This is mostly because India's generic drug industry has over the years made affordable versions of expensive drugs and become a large global supply itself. The Indian pharma industry is the third largest in the world and produces over 60,000 generic drugs across 60 therapeutic categories and had an annual turnover of ₹3.4 lakh crore, Minister of State (Chemicals and Fertilizers) Bhagwant Khuba told Parliament in July 2023. It is also the bulwark of the government's Jan Aushadhi Scheme that allows free drugs to be made available to the poor.

"These effectively mean that drugs such as bedaquiline (for TB) under provisions of data exclusivity wouldn't be available," said Gopa Kumar, legal researcher, Third World Network. Medicine Sans Frontiers, which works on enabling access to medicines, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on February 9 pointing out concerns over these provisions in the draft TEPA.

(With inputs from Suhasini Haidar)

Farooq Abdullah fails to show up before ED

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

National Conference president Farooq Abdullah on Tuesday failed to appear before the Enforcement Directorate (ED), saying he was "out of town".

The agency had issued summons on Monday to Mr. Abdullah in connection with an alleged case of misappropriation of funds by the Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association during his term as its president.

This is the second time this year that he failed to appear before the ED.

Officials suggested that ₹113.67 crore was released by the BCCI from 2002-03 to December 2011 towards the JKCA. There are allegations that there was variation in the two sets of balance sheets of around ₹10 crores for the financial years 2007-08, 2008-09, and 2009-10.

Sonia Gandhi to file nomination for RS polls from Rajasthan

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Congress Parliamentary Party Chairperson and former party president Sonia Gandhi will be filing nomination for the Rajya Sabha elections from Rajasthan on Wednesday, said sources. Ms. Gandhi, MP from Rae Bareli, is currently serving her fifth term in the Lok Sabha and if elected, it will be her first stint in the Upper House.

The decision to opt out of the Lok Sabha race has triggered speculation that her daughter and party general secretary Priyanka Gandhi could make her electoral debut from Rae Bareli.

The 77-year-old has been battling illness for a long time and had stepped back from many party engagements, including the recent election campaigns.

Sonia Gandhi

The party took a strategic call to field Ms. Gandhi from Rajasthan instead of Telangana or Karnataka, to ensure that it does not limit itself to the southern States.

"Our president Mallikarjun Kharge comes from Karnataka, our former president Rahul Gandhi is an MP from Wayanad. We can't have another former president to represent a southern State, that would mean we are entirely giving up on the electoral battle in the North," a Congress leader explained.

The party is yet to make an official announcement.

Magazine told to take down article on Army torture

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has ordered *The Caravan* magazine to take down a story it published on the subject of the Army's alleged "torture and murder of civilians in a restive Jammu," the Delhi-based monthly said in a statement on X.

The order, which *The Caravan* says it will challenge, targets a piece that was part of a series of articles on the magazine's February issue on "The Military Under Modi".

"Screams from the Army Post: The Indian Army's torture and murder of civilians in a restive Jammu," written by journalist Jatinder Kaur Tur, speaks among other things on allegations by civilians in Poonch and Rajouri, two heavily militarised districts in Jammu.

Why Venkataraman was against system of Address by President, Governors

T. Ramakrishnan
CHENNAI

Monday's events in the Tamil Nadu Assembly – wherein Governor R.N. Ravi refused to read out the customary address and walked out of the House – have yet again raised questions about the purpose behind the practice of having a Governor's Address.

In this context, it may be worthwhile to recall that R. Venkataraman, as President during 1987-1992, was a bitter critic of the practice of address by Presidents and Governors to the legislature at the commencement of the first Session of the Houses every year.

In his memoirs, *My Presidential Years*, published in 1994 by Indus, an imprint of HarperCollins Publishers India, the former President described it as a "British anachronism" and a "meaningless formality". He had recommended more than once to Prime Ministers – Rajiv Gandhi in March 1989 and Chandra Shekher in February 1991 – that the institution of the address to the legislature be deleted through a Constitutional amendment.

T.N. Governor R.N. Ravi

'Mouthpieces of regime'

According to him, the address, prepared by the government, contained only views of the regime. The President and Governors were "mouthpieces". It was for this reason that he also found fault with those who criticised the President or Governors for the contents of the address. During his presidency, he felt perturbed over controversies regarding the addresses of Governors in States such as Maharashtra and West Bengal. He was particularly "hurt" by the heckling of a respected and senior academician like Governor Nurul Hasan by the Opposition in the West Bengal Assembly. He chided the Congress party in this regard.

The only suggestion he had made to the government, before presenting his maiden Presidential address to the Parliament in February 1988, was to change the expression "My government" to "The government". The original practice, he reasoned, was a part of the British legacy and not relevant in India which, according to Venkataraman, had a Constitution framed by people themselves through the Constituent Assembly and wherein "the powers of the President, Prime Minister, etc. are given by the people". He pointed out that it was "incongruous" for the President to call it "My Government".

Besides, he observed that "since the entire address is a statement of government policies and programmes, I left it to the government to present it in the form and manner it preferred".

INBRIEF

Maharashtra former CM Ashok Chavan joins BJP

A day after leaving the Congress, former Maharashtra Chief Minister Ashok Chavan joined the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) in Mumbai on Tuesday. The 65-year-old was welcomed at the BJP office in south Mumbai, attended by key leaders, including Deputy CM Devendra Fadnavis and BJP State president Chandrashekhar Bawankule. The second-generation Nanded strongman said that he sees this as the start of a new political journey. "I'm hopeful that we will work for the constructive development of Maharashtra," he said. His exit is seen as a big blow for the Congress ahead of Lok Sabha elections with the party already losing Mumbai heavyweight leaders Milind Deora and Baba Siddique. AICC Maharashtra in-charge Ramesh Chennithala called Mr. Chavan a 'coward', who ran away from battlefield, fearing ED and CBI.

Gujarat govt. seeks review of comments in Bilkis judgment

The Gujarat government moved a review petition in the Supreme Court on Tuesday to reconsider the comments in the Bilkis Bano case judgment. A Bench led by Justice B.V. Nagarathna had quashed the State's move to remit the life sentence of the 11 convicts accused of gang-rape and murder in the case. The court, in its judgment, had directed the men to surrender. The January 8 verdict had also made scathing remarks about the Gujarat government's usurpation of authority to release the convicts prematurely. The court had concluded that Gujarat had no jurisdiction to release the convicts. "The extreme observation made by this court that the State of Gujarat 'acted in tandem and was complicit with [one of the] accused' has caused serious prejudice to the State of Gujarat," the review petition said.

APPEAL

I am **Hasina** aged 14 years from Muthuthala, Kerala. I have a twin sister named Hasna. Both of us are suffering from Spinal Muscular Dystrophy and are in need of one Electric wheelchair costing around **Rs.1,00,000/-** for our mobilisation, which we will share. We are studying in 9th std, hailing from a poor family and require your generous contribution. The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer/ Google Pay (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/C. No:60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT. Your e-mail ID is required.

All correspondence is done through **WWS**, Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No.GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No.29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai - 600006. Ph: 044-42137401/28235324/7338978027. E Mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.** Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org.

Hasina

Opposition says Modi govt. at war with farmers, slams police action

Congress says farmers were only asking government to fulfil the promises made to them two years ago; Mamata terms it 'BJP's brutal assault' on those fighting for their basic rights while CPI's D. Raja says the measures reeked of 'authoritarianism'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Running for cover: Farmer running after tear gas shells were fired on them by the police at the Shambhu Barrier in Punjab on Tuesday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Condemning the police action on protesting farmers, including the use of tear gas and sealing of multiple entry points to New Delhi, the Opposition said the Narendra Modi government seemed to be at war with the farmers.

Congress general secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala said the Centre was using unusually heavy force against the farmers though they had held peaceful protests so far.

"The way they have dug ditches, blocked roads with concrete boulders and heavy vehicles, it feels like we are in the midst of a war. The government is treating the farmers' protest on a par with attack from enemy country," he said at a press conference.

Mr. Surjewala said the farmers were only demanding the implementation of the promises that had been made to them two years ago, like the guarantee on the minimum support price (MSP) and waiving debts of farmers and farm labourers. Demanding that Mr. Modi should talk directly to the farmers to get them justice, Mr. Surjewala asked whether the farmers did not have the right and freedom to come to the national capital in support of their demands.

He asked where the farmers should go if not to the Prime Minister for justice.

West Bengal Chief Minister and Trinamool Congress chairperson Mamata Banerjee also joined in condemning the measures taken to control the protests, dubbing it the "BJP's brutal assault" on farmers.

"How can our country progress when the farmers are attacked with tear gas shells for fighting for their basic rights? I strongly condemn the brutal assault on our farmers by the BJP," Ms. Banerjee said. "Instead of suppressing their protest, the BJP must focus on humbling their inflated egos, power-hungry ambitions, and inadequate governance that has harmed our nation," she added.

CPI general secretary D. Raja said measures like imposing Section 144 of the CrPC across Delhi to prohibit mass gatherings reeked of authoritarianism.

"On one hand, the Modi government boasts about giving Bharat Ratna to M.S. Swaminathan, but it refuses to implement his report that recommended legal backing for MSP. First, they commit blunders and then they use brutal force against those who point out the blunders," he said.

All India Forward Bloc general secretary G. Devarajan said the party stood in solidarity with the farmers.

Congress promises MSP legal guarantee if voted to power

Shubhomoy Sikdar
RAIPUR

Expressing solidarity with the protesting farmers, the Congress on Tuesday promised that it would provide a legal guarantee for minimum support price (MSP) if the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance (INDIA) was voted to power.

The party claimed that the move would benefit nearly 15 crore farmers.

At a Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra rally in the Ambikapur area of Chhattisgarh, Congress chief Mallikarjun Kharge and leader Rahul Gandhi announced the plan to provide MSP in accordance with the farm income recommendations of the Swaminathan Committee, a primary demand of the protesting farmers.

"The Congress announces that we will provide comprehensive procurement of crops along with legal guarantee of MSP to the farmers. When our government comes, this legal guarantee will definitely be there, this is our first guarantee," Mr. Kharge said.

Mallikarjun Kharge and Rahul Gandhi in Chhattisgarh. PTI

He flayed the police action against farmers. "The farmers who have been fighting for their rights, iron spikes were laid on the road and cement walls were placed to stop them. What kind of democracy is this?" he said.

"Farmers are not getting what they deserve. They are only saying that they should get the reward for their hard work," Mr. Gandhi said.

In a first, police use drones to drop tear gas shells on protesters

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

The Haryana Police on Tuesday dropped tear gas shells on the protesting farmers from unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) at the Shambhu Barrier on the Punjab-Haryana boundary. This is the first time drones have been used to launch tear gas grenades by any police force in the country.

The State government used drones made by Drone Imaging and Information Service of Haryana Limited (DRIISHYA), a public limited company incorporated in 2021, a police official told *The Hindu*.

According to a Haryana government press release dated April 4, 2023, the drones are to be utilised for "surveying infrastructure projects, monitoring of agriculture and horticulture crops, and surveillance of sensitive areas for security purposes".

The drone-based tear smoke launcher to control riots and other crowd control situations was developed by the Tear Smoke Unit (TSU) of the Border Security Force (BSF) in 2022 but it has yet not been sold to any State Police force.

Officials said it is possible that Haryana procured the launcher from a private vendor. The tear smoke canisters launched from the drone were however made at a TSU in Tekanpur, Madhya Pradesh.

"The drones are capable of firing several munitions at one go. The launch is controlled by a remote. Sometimes when fired manually from pump guns the canisters are thrown back at the security forces injuring them. This reduces the possibility as multiple canisters are dropped," said a senior government official.

Maurya quits as SP general secretary

Mayank Kumar
LUCKNOW

Samajwadi Party (SP) leader Swami Prasad Maurya on Tuesday resigned from the post of the party's national general secretary.

He alleged attempts being made by certain leaders of the party to "weaken" his initiative to unite the Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, and minorities. "I will continue to work for strengthening the party, without holding any position," he said in a letter to SP chief Akhilesh Yadav.

Haldwani toll rises to six; police set up outpost at site of violence

Ishita Mishra
HALDWANI

The toll in Haldwani violence rose to six on Tuesday, after a 50-year-old resident, Mohammad Israr, died of bullet injuries.

Five were killed and 14 critically injured in violent clashes that broke out in the Banbhooplpura area of Haldwani on February 8, during an anti-encroachment drive by the Nainital district administration.

Six more people were arrested on Tuesday in connection with the violence, Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Prahlad Narayan Meena told *The Hindu*. "We have also recovered two country-made pistols from the accused, along with live bullets. The arrests were made on the basis of CCTV footages from the violence site," said Mr. Meena.

36 arrests in all

With the six new arrests, 36 persons have been arrested in connection with the violence so far. The police said that over 100 police personnel were injured in Thursday's violence.

Suhail, son of Mohammad Israr who died on Tuesday, told *The Hindu* that his father had been in coma after a bullet hit his skull. Israr's brother and 16-year-old nephew had died the day the violence broke out.

"Three people in our family died in that violence in which we had no role to play. This is so unfortunate that poor and innocent pay the price in such situations," said Mohammad Suhail, elder son of Israr.

Meanwhile, within a day of Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announcing that the government would build a police station on the land that was "freed" during the anti-encroachment drive, the district police put up a temporary security outpost at the spot.

The outpost was inaugurated by two women sub-inspectors, who were injured in the violence.

Congress yatra to be cut short by 10 days

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Congress is planning to cut short its Bharat Jodo Nyay Yatra.

The party has already finalised its plan to reduce the Uttar Pradesh leg of the yatra by four days.

According to sources, the decision was prompted by party president Mallikarjun Kharge, who urged senior leader Rahul Gandhi, who is leading the yatra, to return to the capital at the earliest, in time for the Lok Sabha polls.

Mr. Kharge was of the opinion that the entire Congress machinery was far too focused on the yatra rather than preparing for the 2024 Lok Sabha election, sources said.

Party's general secretary (organisation) K.C. Venugopal and general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh have been following Mr. Gandhi for most of the yatra, putting electoral preparations out of gear.

The yatra that was to culminate on March 20 will now end around March 10.

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Sarige Sadana, Main Road, Kalaburagi-585 102.
Tel. & Fax No. 08472-260502, Mobile No. 77606 86172 (COSP), 77609 92029 (S.O).
No. KKT/CO/COSP/802/2023-24 Dated: 12.02.2024

NOTICE INVITING TENDER (THROUGH KPP MODE ONLY)

Tenders through KPP portal (pre-qualification & commercial) are invited for supply of following items.

No. & date	Tender nomenclature	Value in Crores	Last date for online submission
A-29-08.02.24	Procurement of Spring Leaves	11.58	26.02.2024
A-30-08.02.24	Procurement of Ball & Roller Bearings	3.53	26.02.2024
A-31-08.02.24	Procurement of Malleable Components	2.79	26.02.2024

All the details of Tender, Registration, Tender form documents etc. are available at https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Mail to cospnekrtc@gmail.com or support@eprochelpdesk.com for further information if required. Further, any addendum / corrigendum related to changes in terms and conditions of tender, specification and calendar of events etc. will be uploaded only through KPP portal.

Sd/- Controller of Stores and Purchases
(Tender Inviting Authority)
DIPR/Kalaburagi/814/KSMC&A/2023-24

NOTICE INVITING e-TENDER

Executive Engineer(C), Postal Civil Division, Thiruvananthapuram invites on behalf of the President of India, online percentage rate composite tenders for the following work NIT No.29/EE-TVM/23-24. Name of work Consruction of Post office building at Cherupuzha, Kannur Division, Kerala Circle. Estimated Cost: Rs. 11824258/- (Rs. 11356359/- (Civil Portion) & Rs. 467899/- (Electrical Portion)/- Earnest Money: Rs. 236485/- Period of completion: 12 months. Last date and time of submission of bid: 06.03.2024 upto 11.00 hrs. The bid forms and other details can be obtained from the website https://eprocure.gov.in

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER
PWD Ramanagara Special Division, Ramanagara.
Short Term Tender Notification No. : 11/2023-24 Date : 09-02-2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited in **Two Cover System** from the eligible contractors for **06 works from Rs. 35.00 Lakhs to Rs. 495.00 Lakhs** through e-procurement portal as per the Standard Bid Documents. The eligible contractors can participate in this tender through e-procurement portal **http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

1) Documents may be downloaded from 12-02-2024 to 20-02-2024, 2) Last Date for Submission of Tender 20-02-2024 upto 16.00 hours.3) Date of Pre-bid Meeting : 14-02-2024 at 11.30 hours, 4) Date of Opening of Technical Bid 21-02-2024 (If possible) at 16.30 hours.

Tender Processing Fees, EMD as per E-procurement. For more information contact the undersigned during Office Hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
PWD, Special Division,
Ramanagara.
DIPR/Ramanagar/456/Manipal/2023-24

SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM LIMITED
CIN U75302KL2017SGC05027
E-TENDER NOTICE
E-Tenders are invited for the following projects of Smart City Thiruvananthapuram Limited

Sl. No.	Name of Project	E-Tender ID	PAC Amount (Exclusive Of GST)	Bid Submission Last Date
1	Development of Smart Roads and Underground Ducting Including Utility Shifting of Water Supply and Power lines in ABD area Under Smart City Mission Corporation Roads in Thiruvananthapuram, Road ID 59 Punnackal Lane	2023_SCTLT_626123_2	Rs. 2,82,97,346/-	15-Feb-2024
2	Supply Installation Testing Commissioning of EV charging station including Annual Maintenance for the first 5 years fromthe date of handing over after successful commissioning at Azhankal Thiruvananthapuram	2024_SCTLT_654634_1	Rs. 10,45,000/-	15-Feb-2024
3	Selection of Contractor for Construction of Multi-Level Parking Complex in Vanniyankulam, Thiruvananthapuram	2024_SCTLT_654266_1	Rs. 17,42,29,698/-	16-Feb-2024

Date and Time of Opening Price Bid: To Be Intimated Separately to Technically Qualified Bidders by email. All the RFP documents and details are available on the e-Procurement Website. Bids are only accepted online on the Website https://etenders.kerala.gov.in

(sd/-) CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
SMART CITY THIRUVANANTHAPURAM Ltd.

TAMILNADU NEWSPRINT AND PAPERS LIMITED
Kagithapuram - 639 136. Karur Dist. Tamil Nadu.
Ph.: 04324-277001 (10 Lines). Email: insurance.fo@tnpl.co.in

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Tender No.	Material Description	Date of publishing Tender document in TNPL/NIC website	Due date
2024-25/ TNPL/ INS/ RENE WAL	Fixing of Insurer(s) for Renewal of various insurance policies covering TNPL properties, Employees, Interests, Liabilities etc., which are due for Renewal on 27.05.2024. Quotes are invited from General Insurance Companies / Authorised Agents / Brokers - Licenced by IRDAI	29.04.2024	13.05.2024 before 11:00 AM

Terms & conditions and sum insured details are available in tender document at our websites: **www.tnpl.com / www.tenders.tn.gov.in**

DIPR/878/Tender/2024 *TNPL - Maker of bagasse based eco-friendly Paper*

GREATER VISAKHAPATNAM SMART CITY CORPORATION LIMITED
VISAKHAPATNAM (GVSCCL)
NOTICE INVITNG TENDER (NIT)

Tender Notice No:GVSCCL/Projects/359(ICCC-O&M)/2023-24 , Dt:13/02/2024
GVSCCL desires to invite RFP for "Operations & Maintenance of existing Integrated Command and Control Center (ICCC) for a period of 5 (five) years in Visakhapatnam City". The details can be downloaded from website of **www.apeprocurement.gov.in.**
1.Download starting date: 13/02/2024
2. Download ending date: 26/02/2024 @ 4:00 PM
3.Last date of submission of bids: 26/02/2024 @ 5:00 PM
email : visakhapatnamsmartcity@gvsccl.in
Mobile No : **9550230777, 9603336622**
Sd/- MD & CEO, GVSCCL

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike
Office of the Executive Engineer, RI-Yelahanka Division,
3rd Floor, Mini Vidhana Soudha, Yelahanka,
Bangalore-560064
No: EE/RI/YNK/TEND/05/2023-24 Dated : 13.02.2024

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICAITON

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Executive Engineer Road Infrastructure-Yelahanka Division, on behalf of the Commissioner, BBMP invites tenders from eligible Contractors registered in Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike or equivalent registration with CPWD / ICPWD / Railways / MES/National Highway or any State Government Organizations for the construction of works detailed in the table below. As per standard Bid Document KW4.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Appx. put to tender (in lakhs)	EMD
1	Formation of link road as per RMP-2015 from Manyata Tech park main road to Bharathnagara in ward no 06, Byataranayanapura Assembly Constituency.	247.50	Rs. 372000

Calendar of events: 1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the KPP portal from 14.02.2024. 2) Last date for receipt of Queries 21.02.2024 upto 15.00 hours. 3) Pre Tender Meeting will be held on 22.02.2024 at 1600 hours. 4) Tenders must be submitted on or before 17.00 hours on 27.02.2024. 5) Technical Bids will be opened on 28.02.2024 at 17.30 hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, R1-Yelahanka Division

JAIPUR DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
Indira Circle, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Jaipur- 302004, www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in
No. f.6(93)JDA/DC-STORE/Cleaning Work /2024-25/D-48 Dated: 12.02.2024
NOTICE INVITING BID
NIB No.: No. f.6(93)JDA/DC-STORE/Cleaning Work/2024-25/D-48

Online Bids are invited for **"Cleaning Work"** up-to 19.02.2024 till 6:00 PM. The estimated cost of work is **Rs. 2,00,00,000/-** (Two crore only). The last date for applying for Bid and making Online Payment on JDA Portal is 19.02.2024 by 6:00 PM. details may be seen in the Bidding Document available on **www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in, www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in** and **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in.**

To participate in the bid, bidder has to be:
1. Registered on JDA website **www.jda.rajasthan.gov.in,** For participating in the Bid, the Bidder has to apply for the Bid and pay the Bidding Document Fee, RISL Processing Fee and Bid Security Deposit, online only.
2. Registered on e-Procurement Portal of Government of Rajasthan **www.eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** for online e-Bid submission.

(UBN No. **JDA2324SLOB00715**)
Raj.Samwad/C/23/13007 Dy. Commissioner, (Store)

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identification Number(CIN) : U40109PB2010SGC033813;
Mobile no.- 96461-23332, 96461-29246
e-tendering portal: https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
Tender Enquiry No. 49/IPC/RTS/2023-24 dated 13.02.2024

Superintending Engineer/Investment Promotion Cell, PSPCL, Shed No. T-8, shakti Vihar, Patiala invites tender for Site Survey, Design, Supply, Installation, Testing Commissioning including Warranty and 5 years of Comprehensive Maintenance of Roof Top Solar PV Power Systems of various capacities at various office buildings, 66 kV grid sub-stations, hydel projects and thermal projects of PSPCL at different locations under 7 no. packages *(Package no. 1- DS North zone Jalandhar, Package no. 2- DS West zone Bathinda, Package no. 3- DS Centre Zone Ludhiana, Package no. 4- DS South zone Patiala, Package no. 5- DS Border Zone Amritsar, Package no. 6- GHTP Lehra Mohabat, Package no. 7-GGSSTP, Ropar)* under CAPEX Model. For detailed NIT & Tender specification please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 14.02.2024.
Note: Corrigendum & addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in
C-117/24 76155/12/2703/2023/32406

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure,
K.R. Pura Division, NRI Layout Main Road,
near Indira Canteen, Kalkere, Bengaluru-560016
No.: EE/RI-K.R.Pura/TEND/02/2023-24 Date: 13.02.2024

INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)
(Short Term Tender Notification)
(Through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Road Infrastructure - K.R. Pura Division invites tenders from eligible tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work & Package	Approx. Amount put to tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	Improvements to Channasandra junction including asphalting of Main Road and development of footpath in R.I. K.R. Pura Division.	419.45	Rs. 1,00,000/- through e-payment and Rs. 5,30,000/- through e-Bank Guarantee as per bid document

Calender of events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from the e-procurement portal of the Government of Karnataka from **15.02.2024** onwards. **(2)** Tenders must be submitted online through e-procurement portal on or before **4:00 p.m.** on **23.02.2024** and the opening of tenders will be as per the kppp guidelines. **(3)** Pre bid meeting will be held on **19.02.2024** at **3:00 p.m.** in the Office of the Chief Engineer (Road Infrastructure). **(4)** Technical bids will be opened on the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** in the Office of the Executive Engineer - K.R. Pura Division on **26.02.2024** at **4:30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Road Infrastructure - K.R. Pura Division, BBMP

INBRIEF

Plea in SC seeks review of Adani-Hindenburg verdict

A review petition was filed on Tuesday in the Supreme Court seeking a relook of its January verdict backing the investigation of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in the Adani-Hindenburg case and refusing to transfer the probe to the Central Bureau of Investigation or a Special Investigation Team. The petition seeking a review of the judgment, a rare remedy, said the investigation reports of the market regulator should be made public. The SEBI has been conducting 24 separate investigations after the Hindenburg Research published a report accusing the Adani Group of having manipulated its share prices.

16-year-old JEE aspirant found dead in Kota hostel

A 16-year-old JEE aspirant allegedly hanged himself in his hostel room, hours after the National Testing Agency published the answer key for the first edition of JEE-Main 2024, the police said on Tuesday. This is the third case of suspected suicide by coaching students in Kota this year, they added. The boy was a student of Class 12 and had appeared in the JEE-Main 2024 examination, Circle Officer DSP Bhawani Singh said. He had been preparing for JEE at a coaching institute here and was living in the hostel for two years. Twenty-six cases of alleged suicide by coaching students were reported in Kota in 2023. *(Those in distress may contact Sanjivini, Society for Mental Health suicide prevention helpline 011-4076 9002)* PTI

India-UAE relations serve as a model for the world: Modi

Our partnership is getting stronger in all areas and reaching newer heights, says PM during his seventh visit to the Gulf country; thousands of Indian nationals attend 'Ahlan Modi' event

Press Trust of India
ABU DHABI

Hailing India and the UAE as "partners in progress", Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said the ties between the two strategic partners serve as a model for the world and they are scripting a new history in the third decade of the 21st century.

"Our partnership is getting stronger in all areas and reaching newer heights. It's India's wish that our partnership keeps getting stronger every passing day," he said.

"India and the UAE are partners in progress. Our relationship is of talent, innovation and culture," Mr. Modi said, addressing the Indian community here at the 'Ahlan Modi' (Hello Modi in Arabic) grand event.

Underscoring the ancient community and cultural ties between the two countries, he also spoke a few lines in Arabic, which he later translated as how both India and the UAE are scripting a better future on '*duniya ki kitaab*' (the world's book) with'*waqt ki kalam*' (the pen of time).

Mr. Modi told the Indian community here that India is proud of them and it was the time to hail the friendship between the two countries. "In terms of community and culture, the achievements of Bharat and the UAE serve as a model for the world to emulate," he said.

Strong ties: UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed al-Nahyan and Prime Minister Narendra Modi in Abu Dhabi. AFP

Overwhelmed, says PM

After greeting the thousands-strong audience with a '*Namaskar*' amid chants of 'Modi, Modi' at the Zayed Sports City Stadium here, Mr. Modi said he was overwhelmed by the affection at the community programme.

"You have scripted history by coming in such large numbers here. You may have come from different parts of the UAE and different States of India, but everyone's hearts are connected. In this historic stadium, every heartbeat echoes the same sentiment- Long live Bharat-UAE friendship," Mr. Modi said at the event that began with national anthems of the two countries.

"Today's memory will be with me forever because I have come here to meet members of my family," he said.

Noting that the achievements of India are the achievements of its citizens, Mr. Modi exuded confidence that in his third term, India will become the third-largest economy of the world.

Recalling his first visit to the UAE in 2015, Mr. Modi said he was new to the Central government at that time and it was the first UAE visit by any Indian Prime Minister in three decades. "I vividly recall my first visit in 2015, shortly after assuming the title of Prime Minister. I remember being warmly received at the airport by the Crown Prince who is now the President. During that visit, I felt a sense of kinship as if I was visiting family. In the 10 years since then, it is my seventh visit to the UAE."

He said he was fortunate to have been bestowed with the prestigious Order of Zayed (in 2019), the highest civilian award of the UAE. "It belongs to the 140 crore Indians back home and the thousands of Indians residing in the UAE. I am grateful that our partners in Emirates have provided safe space to Indians in their hearts as well as their land," he said.

Mr. Modi is on a two-day visit to the UAE. He will inaugurate the largest Hindu temple here on Wednesday.

Indira Gandhi, Nargis Dutt National Film Awards renamed

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director' and the 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration', which are part of the National Film Awards, have been renamed on the recommendation of the Committee for Rationalisation of Film Awards.

The cash that goes with prizes in all categories has been increased significantly. The Dadasaheb Phalke Award winners will now get ₹15 lakh, up from the ₹10 lakh earlier.

In a report adopted by the Information & Broadcasting Ministry, the committee constituted under the chairmanship of the Additional Secretary (I&B) made several recommendations. Accordingly, changes have been incorporated in the 70th National Film Awards (2022) Regulations.

Actor Madhavan greets actor Waheeda Rehman during the 69th National Film Awards at Vigyan Bhavan. FILE PHOTO

Awards clubbed

The committee recommended that the 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director' be renamed 'Best Debut Film of a Director', and the award money be increased to ₹3 lakh. It also said that the 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration' be clubbed with 'Best Film on Social Issues' and 'Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation' and renamed 'Best Feature Film Promoting National, Social and Environmental Values'. The Best Animation Film and the Best Special Effects categories have been clubbed under a new category of Best AVGC Film.

The Best Actor award has been renamed 'Best Actor in a Leading Role'; and the Best Actress to 'Best Actress in a Leading Role'. As recommended, the Best Supporting Actor award has been titled 'Best Actor in Supporting Role' and the Best Supporting Actress award to 'Best Actress in a Supporting Role'.

The committee had also recommended that only one award be given in each category.

23 boys top JEE (Main) with 100 percentile score

Maitri Porecha
NEW DELHI

Of the 11.7 lakh students who appeared for the Joint Entrance Examination (Main) for engineering admissions, 23 candidates – all boys – bagged 100 percentile score.

Among the toppers, seven are from Telangana, followed by three each from Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, two from Haryana and one each from Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Karnataka.

One of them, Telangana-based Rishi Shekhar Shukla, a 16-year-old student of the Pallavi Model School in Hyderabad, told the *The Hindu*, "I packed in nine hours of study per day, devoting three hours each to physics, chemistry, and mathematics."

All smiles: Rishi Shekhar Shukla, a JEE (Main) topper from Telangana celebrating in Hyderabad on Tuesday. ANI

Rishi Shekhar said he woke up at 5.30 a.m. to squeeze in two hours of study before attending school. He attended coaching classes for around three hours. Rishi Shekhar will be preparing for his Class 12 Board exams till March 12, before turning his attention to the JEE (Advanced). The JEE (Advanced) - for admission to IITs - is slated for May 26.

"I want to secure a good all-India rank in JEE (Advanced) and study computer science course in IIT Bombay," he said.

The NTA has said that the second session of the JEE (Main) will be held between April 4 and April 15 for which students can submit forms online till March 2. The top 2.24 lakh rank holders in the JEE (Main) qualify to appear for the JEE (Advanced).

MEA told to monitor organ transplantion process for foreigners

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Aimed at preventing any possible commercial dealings in organ or tissue transplantation sought by foreigners, Health Secretary Apurva Chandra, in a written communication, alerted the Ministry of External Affairs to possible violations of rules and asked support to establish systems for monitoring the process.

The Health Ministry said foreign nationals were coming to India for various types of organ transplantation. They could be a prospective recipient or donor of organs and might be visiting on a medical or attendant visa.

"A recent media report has highlighted that in some cases, the veracity of the documents to establish relationship between the donor and the recipient, their identity documents, proof of residence etc cannot be established confidently and the same may not be genuine," Mr. Chandra said in his letter to Foreign Secretary Vinay Kwatra.

Listing out the provisions under the Transplantation of Human Organ and Tissues Act, 1994, the Ministry sought that these rules be disseminated to all embassies and missions of foreign countries in India and also to the government concerned, in case an embassy or a mission does not exist in India. It also requested that a nodal officer be identified for coordinating the process of organ donation and transplantation for foreigners.

Govt. revises guidelines for community radio stations

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Minister of Information and Broadcasting Anurag Singh Thakur released the revised policy guidelines for setting up community radio stations at the Regional Community Radio Sammelan (South), a two-day conference, which commenced here on World Radio Day on Tuesday.

Addressing the conference through a video message, Mr. Thakur said that the revised guidelines allowed a single institution to set up a maximum of six stations in different districts of operation, increased the advertising time for the stations from seven minutes to 12 minutes per hour, and increased the rate of advertisement from ₹52 per 10 seconds to ₹74 per 10 seconds.

Anurag Singh Thakur

He said such measures will help in financial sustainability of the stations and further growth of the community radio sector. Pointing out that the first community radio was launched in 2004 by former Deputy Prime Minister L.K. Advani, he said the number of stations increased substantially after the present government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi came to power in 2014.

Highlighting that there were 481 community radio stations in India at the moment, he expressed hope that the number will increase over the next three years. He said each station was a reflection of the local model that had been built over the years and the experiential learnings collected and shared.

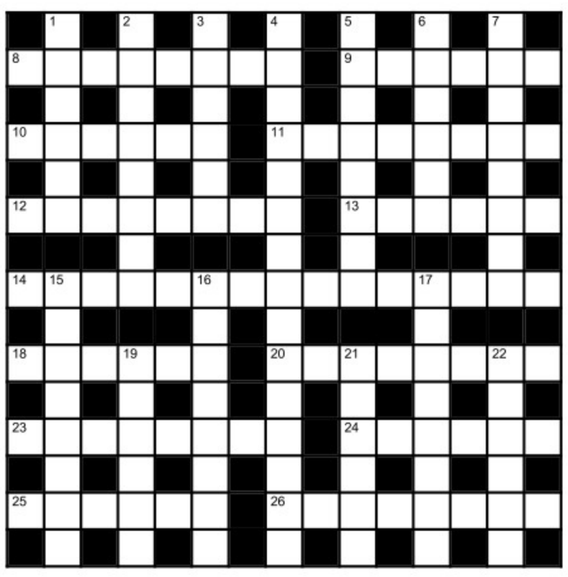
Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L. Murugan, who delivered his speech through video conference, said there cannot be a better way to reach out to the community than this relatively inexpensive medium of community radio stations. He appealed to the stations to publicise the various welfare schemes being implemented by the government.

TH CROSSWORD + 14097

(set by Vidwan)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

8 Kind surgeon operated and sealed her heart (8)
9 Moulded by a priest inside shack (6)
10 Part executed without intravenous drug (6)
11 Grey, bored by sex! A time to be on the edge! (8)
12 Spooner's 24 hours hog farm for purebred (8)
13 Monk going south for vinegar (6)
14 Popular school lament about English lines, something that bugs the bugs (6,9)
18 Rodent consuming second dessert (6)
20 Pause that is extremely elongate, perhaps (8)
23 Good actor, heading out to military base (8)
24 Liberal prison official wanting women for pantry (6)
25 Festival! Leave out fellow who eats heartily! (6)
26 Pet waste reused for flowering plant (8)

Down

1 Small dog or cat tiptoes occasionally (6)
2 Iron men imbibing popular, stylish aspect of women (8)
3 So pure hash is fake? (6)
4 Am in space scheme programmed for avoiding ground realities (6,9)
5 Assess site redeveloped by friend (8)
6 Plunder run by headless barbarian (6)
7 Green is mixed with red in the end to make a fresh sketch (8)
15 About a new baby, one shifting to a South African province (8)
16 A sure try possibly for source of funds (8)
17 Intelligentsia's inflamed, leading to irate fights (8)
19 New start with adult classes (6)
21 Special live broadcast runs for runner-up's medal (6)
22 Famous talks about fringe focusing on a particular subject (6)

SUDOKU

			6				9	8
9				8			2	
				2	5	4		
	9	2			3			1
3			2		8			5
4			1			9	3	
		4	3	5				
	6			7				4
2	5				6			

No.SS6068 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

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	H		D		E		O		Y		E		G	

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

8	5	9	3	4	7	1	2	6
3	4	1	6	2	8	7	9	5
6	7	2	5	9	1	8	4	3
5	6	7	8	1	4	2	3	9
9	3	8	7	5	2	6	1	4
2	1	4	9	3	6	5	7	8
4	8	5	1	7	9	3	6	2
7	2	3	4	6	5	9	8	1
1	9	6	2	8	3	4	5	7

FAITH

Thiruvaheendrapuram link

The second half of the tenth mantra of Apratiratha Sukta says: "*asmaakam veeraah uttare bhavantu*." Sayanacharya, the 14th century commentator, said this was a prayer that one's soldiers should be stronger than those of one's enemies. In a discourse, V.S. Karunakaracharia explained the mantra from a Visishtadvaitic angle. If the mantra is talking about opponents, then who are the opponents of a Visishtadvaitin? They are those who oppose the teachings of Ramanujacharya. Those who argue with these opponents, and establish Ramanujacharya's point of view are the soldiers of a Visishtadvaitin. Every school of philosophy has its defendants, and Visihtadvaita is no exception to this. The second half of the tenth mantra can be specifically related to the deity at Thiruvaheendrapuram in Tamil Nadu. Every year, in the Tamil month of Thai, the processional deity of the Thiruvaheendrapuram temple is taken to the banks of the Pennar.

When Vedanta Desika resided in Thiruvaheendrapuram, he used to accompany the deity to the river bank, and on such occasions, debated with scholars from other schools of philosophy. So the latter portion of the tenth mantra can be taken to refer to Thiruvaheendrapuram, where Desika refuted those who questioned the validity of Visishtadvaita.

INBRIEF

BHEL reports Q3 net loss of ₹149 cr. on higher expenses

BHEL on Tuesday posted a consolidated net loss of ₹148.77 crore for the third quarter ended December 2023, impacted by higher expenses. The state-owned company had posted a net profit of ₹42.28 crore in the October-December period of the 2022-23 financial year, it said in a filing. Total income rose to ₹5,599.63 crore, from ₹5,353.94 crore a year earlier. Expenses increased to ₹5,816.87 crore from ₹5,320.84 crore in Q3 of the last fiscal. PTI

JSW Steel-JFE JV to set up unit at ₹5,500-cr. investment

JSW Steel on Tuesday announced plans to set up a grain-oriented electrical steel manufacturing facility through a joint venture with JFE Steel Corporation at an estimated investment of ₹5,500 crore. Japan-based JFE Corporation also holds a 15% share in JSW Steel. The new company, JSW Electrical Steel Pvt. Ltd., to be renamed JSW JFE Electrical Steel Pvt. Ltd., will have its manufacturing base in Bellary district, Karnataka, JSW Steel said in a statement. PTI

Bosch Q3 net rises to ₹518 cr. on surge in vehicle demand

Bosch Ltd. on Tuesday said increased demand for vehicles had resulted in robust growth in Q3 net profit. The company posted a net profit of ₹518 crore, a 12.3% YoY jump. Revenue from operations grew 14.9% to ₹4,205 crore. "This growth was driven by surging demand in the overall automotive market, mainly passenger cars and heavy commercial vehicles," said Guruprasad Mudlapur, President of Bosch Group, India, and MD, Bosch Ltd.

Food prices may keep inflation high

Most economists don't expect the pace of price rise faced by consumers to slow much further in the near term; Consumer Food Price Inflation stood at 8.3% in January, a tad below the 9.5% mark of December, but still sharply above October's 6.6%

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

A slight downtick in food price inflation may have cooled retail inflation to a three-month low of 5.1% in January, but most economists don't expect the pace of price rise faced by consumers to slip much further in the near term with prices of vegetables, cereals and pulses still elevated.

Consumer Food Price Inflation stood at 8.3% in January, a tad below the 9.5% mark of December, but still sharply above October's 6.6% pace when retail inflation was at 4.87%.

Inflation "may not drop further from these [5.1%] levels in February, as per high frequency vegetables price data so far", HSBC economists Aayushi Chaudhary and Pranjul Bhandari said in a note on Tuesday, noting that prices of vegetables and other food items have held firm through the first ten days of this month.

Cereals inflation may have cooled from 15 successive months of double-digit rise, but still remains high at 7.8%, India Ratings and Research economists Sunil Kumar Sinha and Paras Jasrai said. "... Higher food inflation continues to be a worry area for RBI because it has the potential of impacting the core inflation via wage-price spiral," they noted, projecting retail inflation to remain around 4.9% in February and March.

Last week, RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das had cautioned that "recurring food price shocks could interrupt the ongoing disinflation process, with risks that it could lead to de-anchoring of inflation expectations and generalisation of price pressures."

SBI group chief economic advisor Soumya Kanti Ghosh said that evolving food prices will determine domestic inflation and retail inflation is expected to remain slightly above 5% in the remaining two months of 2023-24. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has projected an average inflation of 5% for this quarter.

A brief respite

The drop in retail inflation in January is seen as temporary with prices of vegetables, cereals and pulses still elevated

- Economists say high frequency vegetables price data so far suggest inflation may not fall any further
- Prices of vegetables and other food items have held firm through the first 10 days of the current month
- Last week, RBI Governor Das had cautioned that food price shocks may interrupt the disinflation process

U.S. consumer prices rose more-than-expected in Jan.

Reuters
WASHINGTON

U.S. consumer prices increased more than expected in January amid rises in the costs of shelter and healthcare, but the pick-up in inflation likely does not change expectations that the Federal Reserve will start cutting interest rates in the first half of this year.

The consumer price index (CPI) increased 0.3% last month after gaining 0.2% in December, the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics said on Tuesday.

In the 12 months through January, the CPI increased 3.1%. That followed a 3.4% advance in December. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast the CPI rising 2.9% year-on-year. The annual increase in consumer prices has moderated from a peak of 9.1% in June 2022.

Financial markets anticipate the Fed will start cutting interest rates in May, though some economists are gravitating towards June, given the still tight labour market and persistently elevated services inflation.

Core inflation

Excluding the volatile food and energy components, the CPI rose 0.4% last month after increasing 0.3% in December. In addition to rents, beginning of the year price increases also likely accounted for rise in the so-called core CPI.

The core CPI advanced 3.9% year-on-year in January, matching December's increase.

In a first, Tata Motors cuts its EV car prices

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The market leader in electric passenger vehicles, Tata Motors, has slashed prices for two of its electric vehicle (EV) cars by up to ₹1.2 lakh in a first such cut by a car maker in India.

The price of the Nexon.ev has been cut by up to ₹1.2 lakh with the long range Nexon.ev now starting from ₹16.99 lakh. The Tiago.ev has got a price reduction of up to ₹70,000 with the base model now starting at ₹7.99 lakh.

While, this comes amidst softening EV demand, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Ltd. (TPEM) attributed the decision to a reduction in raw material cost.

"Battery constitutes a substantial part of the overall cost of an EV," Vivek Srivatsa, Chief Commercial Officer, TPEM, said in a statement. "With softening of battery cell prices... we have chosen to pass on the benefits to customers," Mr. Srivatsa added.

Wipro to buy $66-mn stake in Aggne Global

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Wipro Ltd. will acquire 60% equity in U.S.-based Aggne Global, a consulting and managed services company, for $66 million in an all-cash deal to strengthen its consulting and services capabilities for the insurance sector, the tech firm said in a statutory filing on Tuesday.

Wipro said it is currently acquiring 60%, with an option to purchase the remaining stake over some time. The transaction is expected to be completed by February 14, 2024.

IP in insurance

The acquisition would bring a unique set of capabilities and intellectual property (IP) in the property & casualty (P&C) insurance space to Wipro, the tech firm said.

> Our expertise will allow us to bring clients an end-to-end offering that will help them drive competitive advantage
>
> **HARPREET ARORA**
> Senior Vice-President, Wipro

"Our combined domain expertise will allow us to bring clients a truly end-to-end offering that will help them drive competitive advantage and customer loyalty," said Harpreet Arora, Senior Vice-President and Global Head of Banking, Financial Services and Insurance Domain & Consulting at Wipro.

ALL invests ₹537 cr. in U.K. unit Optare

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

Ashok Leyland has made an additional investment of ₹537 crore in its U.K. subsidiary Optare PLC.

The investment is primarily to meet the capital expenditure, R&D and operational requirements of Optare and Switch Mobility, both in U.K. and India, ALL said.

Consequently, ALL's shareholding in Optare has risen to 92.59% from 92.19%. Hinduja Automotive Ltd., the promoter, holds 6.9%.

Optare, which makes and sells commercial vehicles, had reported a consolidated revenue of ₹230 crore for FY23.

Earlier, ALL had announced it would invest ₹1,200 crore in its electric vehicle arm Switch Mobility as equity through Switch's holding firm Optare, in one or more tranches. On December 5, Ashok Leyland had invested ₹663 crore in Optare.

ALL's shareholding in Optare has risen to 92.59% from 92.19%. while Hinduja Auto holds 6.9% stake

IRDAI issues exposure draft on Bima Sugam

N. Ravi Kumar
HYDERABAD

Insurance regulator IRDAI has issued an exposure draft on electronic marketplace Bima Sugam, which has been mooted as a one-stop solution to facilitate a range of services related to insurance policies–from purchase, sale, servicing and settlement of claims to grievance redressal.

A not-for-profit company is to be established for Bima Sugam. The revenue model will be self-sustainable and consumers will not be charged for availing the services of the e-marketplace, the IRDAI said in the draft document.

Kinetic Q3 net doubles; firm upbeat on demand for eLuna

N. Anand
CHENNAI

Kinetic Engineering Ltd. (KEL) reported third-quarter standalone net profit more than doubled from a year earlier to ₹1.10 crore, and said it expects to add ₹80 crore in consolidated revenue in the next fiscal from eLuna moped sales.

KEL also posted a four-fold jump in 9-month profit to ₹4.26 crore.

"This has been mainly due to good product mix, increase in exports volume, cost cutting measures and reduction in debt." Chairman Ajinkya Firodia said during an interaction. "We are now a debt-free firm," he added.

Mr. Firodia said KEL had been receiving overwhelming response for eLuna from traders and college students alike. "In the first year (FY25), we plan to sell about 1 lakh units. It will add to our topline by ₹80 crore. The deliveries of eLuna have already begun. Production will be ramped up gradually from 2,000 to 4,000, 6,000 and 8,000 per month," he added.

Ajinkya Firodia

The Pune-based company, which had shifted from manufacturing two-wheelers to auto components, has set its sights on producing motors, controllers and batteries for EV segment through its newly floated Kinetic Watts and Volts.

"Recently, our board approved an investment up to ₹50 crore in the new subsidiary. We invested about ₹40-50 crore by selling some non-core assets and little funding. The new subsidiary will produce components for the EV business," he said.

KEL will manufacture gear box, chassis, swing arms, main and side stands and other essential body parts and supply them to Kinetic Green Mobility.

समाहरणालय, गोड्डा, (जिला विकास शाखा)
E-Mail Id- vikassakhagodda2@gmail.com

– : निविदा सूचना शुद्धि पत्र : –

एतद् द्वारा सूचित किया जाता है कि अधोहस्ताक्षरी के कार्यालय ज्ञापांक–70 / वि०, दिनांक–09.02.2024 के द्वारा सदर अस्पताल, गोड्डा के लिए चिकित्सा उपकरण / पस्कर / फर्नीचर आदि के क्रय हेतु PR No. 318614 के माध्यम से निविदा संख्या–01, दिनांक–09.02.2024 के द्वारा GeM Bid Number: GEM/2024/B/4611289 Dated: 09.02.2024 के द्वारा जिला के ऑफिशियल वेबसाईट एवं विभिन्न समाचार पत्रों के माध्यम से निविदा सूचना प्रकाशित की गई है।

उक्त निविदा के Eligibility Criteria esa DIC Certificate ,oa Technical Specification of Items (Annexure-I) में Quantity or Unit of Measurement को अनिवार्य कागजात के रूप में सम्मलित किया जाता है अर्थात निविदाकार को निविदा के साथ उपरोक्त कागजात संलग्न करना अनिवार्य होगा।

निविदा की शेष शर्तें यथावत् रहेगी।

प्रभारी पदाधिकारी
जिला विकास शाखा, गोड्डा

PR 318934 Godda(23-24)#D

Government of Maharashtra
PUBLIC WORKS (TRIBAL) DIVISION, AMRAVATI
E-Tender Notice No. 33/ 2023-24
(Outer No..... /PWTD/TENDER/Date:- 08/02/2024
ADDRESS:- Executive Engineer, Public Work (Tribal) Division, Near by Tapovan Gate, Amravall.
E-mail :- eetribalamt@gmail.com **Telephone No (0721) 2668079**

The Executive Engineer, Public Work (Tribal) Division, Amravati, invites e-tenders for following works, in B-1 form, through e-tendering process. **For works Sr No.01 to 06 Only Class- 1-C & Above for P.W. (Tribal). Division. registered Contractors only in appropriate class with P.W.(Trihal). Division. of Maharashtra Govt. can only participate in tendering process.** The tenders document can be downloaded from Government **website :- http://mahatenders.gov.in.**

Right to accept or reject tenders is reserved with Executive Engineer, Public Work (Tribal) Division, Amravati. The contractor also must submit one hard copy of envelop with name of Contractor & name of work written on envelop, should be submit within 72 hours of closure of the bid. Conditional tender will not he accepted.

Sr. No	Name of Work	Eatimated Cost (Rs.	Bid Dowabad perlad	Last Date of Bid Submission	Date Bid opening	Eligible Contractor
1	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT TRIBAL ASHRAM SCHOOL BUILDING (G+3) AT NAGAD TAL. KANNAD DIST. CHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR	9,21,64,537/-	13/02/2024	27/02/2024	29/02/2024	For works Sr No.01 to 06 Only Class-1-C& Above for P.W.(Tribal). Division. registered Contractors only
2	CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT TRIBAL ASHRAM SCHOOL BUILDING (G+3) AT SHEDALLA TAL. ASHTI DIST. BEED.	8,48,09,824/-				
3	CONSTRUCTION OF FIS HOSTEL BUILDING AT GOVERNMENT TRIBAL ASHRAM SCHOOL COMPLEX THETEGAVHAN TAL. DHARUR DIST. BEED	8,99,32,054/-				
4	CONSTRUCTION OF GIRLS 4 HOSTEL BUILDING AT GOVERNMENT TRIBAL ASHRAM SCHOOL COMPLEX THE TEGAVHAN TAL. DHARUR DIST. BEED	8,17,90,093/-				
5	CONSTRUCTION OF BOYS HOSTEL BUILDING AT GOVERNMENT TRIBAL ASHRAM SCHOOL COMPLEX TISTON TAL. KHULATABAD DIST. CHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR.	8,15,34,583/-				
6	CONSTRUCTION OF GIRLS HOSTEL BUILDING AT GOVERNMENT TRIBAL ASHRAM SCHOOL COMPLEX TISTON TAL. KHULATABAD DIST. CHATRAPATI SAMBHAJINAGAR.	7,85,39,248/-				

(Time, Date & Venue of Pre Bid Conferen-21/02/2024 @ 12:00 Hrs in the office of the Chief Engineer, Works Management Cell, Tribal Development Department, South Wing, Third Floor, Bandhkam Bhavan, Murzban Road, Fort, Mumbai. Online Further information regarding online meeting Contact this Office)

All information regarding e-tendering is available on following websites-
1. http://mahatenders.gov.in (Any change in teader notice will be published on above website only.)
2. Notice Board O/O The Executive Engineer, Public Works Division (Tribal), Amravati.

Sd/-
(Sandeep N. Deshmukh)
Executive Engineer, Public Work (Tribal) Division, Amravati.

DGIPR/2023-2024/8122

Form No. INC-19
NOTICE
[Pursuant to rule 22 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rules, 2014]

1. Notice is hereby given that in pursuance to Rule 22 of the Companies (Incorporation) Rule, 2014 the Company M/s Interoperable India Foundation having its registered office at #690 6th Cross 5th Main H A L 3rd Stage Jeevanbhimanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka, India, 560075 registered under section 8 is Converting into Private limited Company.
2. The Members of the Company in the general meeting held on 22nd December 2023 decided to Convert into a private limited company in compliance the company has made an application to Regional Director, Southeast region for Conversion.
3. Notice is hereby given that any person, firm, company, corporation or body corporate, objecting to this application may communicate such objection to the registrar at Bangalore, Karnataka within thirty days from the date of publication of this notice, by a letter addressed to Registrar of Companies situated at 'E' Wing, 2nd Floor, Kendriya Sadana Kormangala, Banglore-560034 a copy of which shall be forwarded to in the Applicant at #690 6th Cross 5th Main, H A L 3rd Stage Bangalore, Jeevanbhimanagar, Bangalore, Karnataka-560075.

For INTEROPERABLE INDIA FOUNDATION

Sd/- **Sd/-**
Vasanth Kumar **Pavan Gadhar**
Director **Director**
DIN: 03570216 **DIN: 03570150**

Place : Bangalore **- Date:** 14.02.2024

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that, my client **Sri NAND KISHORE**, S/o Sri M. Abhay Kumar, Aged about 33 years **(2) Sri MOHIT. A,** S/o Sri M. Abhay Kumar, Aged about 20 years both are residing at No 22/1, 8th Main, 7th Cross, Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru – 560 052 is intending to purchase all that piece and parcel of residential immovable property bearing Site No 119, New No 19, situated at 8th Main Road, Vasanthanagar, Division No 44, New No 71, Bengaluru – 560 052 , measuring on the Easter to Western sides 34 ½ feet and Northern to Southern side 35 feet, which is morefully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as schedule property, together with the building standing thereon from Smt Shaha Jahan, W/o Sri Syed Anees Ahmed, aged about 55 years, (2) Sri Mohammad Osama Ahmed, S/o Sri Syed Anees Ahmed, aged about 32 years, (3) Smt Fathimuz Zohra, D/o Sri Syed Anees Ahmed, aged about 29 years, all resident of 119/19, 1st Floor, 8th Main Road, Beside Raja Bakery, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru -560 001

Any person/s asserting any kind of right, title and interest or claims of any sort towards the sale transactions may file their objections or claims with documentary proof thereof with the undersigned within 2 (Two) days from the date of this paper publication to complete the sale transaction without being liable for any claims put forth thereof.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential immovable property bearing Site No 119, New No 19, situated at 8th Main Road, Vasanthanagar, Division No 44, New No 71, Bengaluru – 560 052 , measuring on the Easter to Western sides 34 ½ feet and Northern to Southern side 35 feet, presently numbered as Site No 119/19, 1st Floor, 8th Main Road, Baside Raja Bakery, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru -560 001 together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded on the East by : Sri Raja Rao`s property, West by : Smt Naseema Yasin`s property, North by : 8th Main Road, Vasanthnagar, Bengaluru and South by : Sri Kasi Rao`s property, bearing house No 130

Address of Service:
H. MANJUNATH, Advocate,
No 1028/A, Ground Floor, 15th Main Road,
Hanumanthanagar, BENGALURU – 560 050
(M) 9886312354

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	TUESDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	71,555	0.68
US Dollar	83.08	-0.09
Gold	63,100	-0.07
Brent oil	82.77	1.17

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	3178.45	8.70
Adani Ports	1264.80	15.45
Apollo Hosp	6718.90	104.45
Asian Paints	2971.60	17.80
Axis Bank	1070.75	24.05
Bajaj Auto	7917.40	87.45
Bajaj Finserv	1568.00	10.75
Bajaj Finance	6603.65	34.50
Bharti Airtel	1117.85	-0.85
BPCL	584.30	-6.15
Britannia Ind	4981.60	11.40
Cipla	1457.75	23.00
Coal India	452.35	19.55
Divis Lab	3700.45	-39.70
Dr Reddys Lab	6335.35	1.85
Eicher Motors	3854.20	-17.65
Grasim Ind	2064.15	-83.20
HCL Tech	1665.60	-1.35
HDFC Bank	1394.45	4.45
HDFC Life	589.55	12.35
Hero MotoCorp	4744.80	57.30
Hindalco	510.10	-72.35
Hind Unilever	2394.00	8.35
ICICI Bank	1019.80	23.70
IndusInd Bank	1463.90	16.75
Infosys	1684.55	4.45
ITC	406.75	-0.10
JSW Steel	812.65	1.15
Kotak Bank	1737.15	27.60
L&T	3321.50	21.95
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5557.15	40.65
M&M	1646.75	-13.70
Maruti Suzuki	10794.50	84.80
NestleIndia	2457.35	-1.70
NTPC	321.55	5.40
ONGC	259.50	1.60
PowerGrid Corp	270.25	-0.05
Reliance Ind	2930.20	25.50
SBI Life	1467.60	31.60
State Bank	713.45	5.55
Sun Pharma	1542.20	7.75
TataConsumerProduct	1137.80	15.60
Tata Motors	906.90	-4.70
Tata Steel	137.85	0.45
TCS	4149.50	28.80
Tech Mahindra	1328.45	9.65
Titan	3559.95	-25.30
UltraTech Cement	9852.40	-111.45
UPL	479.10	20.70
Wipro	511.60	10.15

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on February 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	82.80	83.12
Euro	89.19	89.54
British Pound	104.83	105.24
Japanese Yen (100)	55.37	55.58
Chinese Yuan	11.51	11.56
Swiss Franc	94.14	94.52
Singapore Dollar	61.55	61.80
Canadian Dollar	61.56	61.82
Malaysian Ringitt	17.37	17.46
Australian Dollar	53.97	54.18

Source:Indian Bank

MOSCOW

Russia declares Estonian PM 'wanted' in war memorials spat

REUTERS

Russia declared Estonian leader Kaja Kallas and other European officials as "wanted" on Tuesday over their alleged involvement in the destruction of Soviet-era war memorials. The monuments had long been controversial in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania and seen by many as symbols of their time under Soviet occupation. AFP

YEREVAN

Armenia says four killed in border flare-up with arch-rival Azerbaijan

AP

Armenia and Azerbaijan accused each other on Tuesday of opening fire on the border, with Yerevan saying Azerbaijani forces killed four of its soldiers and Russia urging restraint. Yerevan and Baku have fought two wars over the disputed Nagorno-Karabakh region, which Azerbaijan recaptured in a lightning offensive last September. AFP

COLOMBO

Sri Lanka to amend controversial Online Safety Act after blowback

AP

The Sri Lankan Cabinet has decided to amend the Online Safety Act, the government said on Tuesday, after it came under attack for stifling dissent and harming the potential growth of the country's digital economy. The legislation would have led to the creation of a panel which would issue punitive rulings on offences. PTI

TEHRAN

Iran fires first ship-based long-range ballistic missiles

AFP

Iran's Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) said on Tuesday it has launched long-range ballistic missiles from a warship for the first time. The launch from the *Shahid Mahdavi* during naval manoeuvres involved firing two ballistic missiles capable of striking targets up to 1,700 km away. AFP

'Islamic State group kills nine Syrian soldiers'

Agence France-Presse
BEIRUT

Islamic State group jihadists killed nine Syrian soldiers in the war-torn country's vast Badia desert on Tuesday, a war monitor said.

"Nine Syrian soldiers were killed and three wounded" when they had gathered in the east of Hama province in central Syria, said the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights.

IS has stepped up attacks in Syria in recent months, particularly in the Badia desert which runs from the outskirts of Damascus to the Iraqi border.

On February 2, the Sunni Muslim extremist group killed five members of forces loyal to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

Pakistan's leading parties agree to form coalition without Imran's PTI

Nawaz Sharif of PML-N party, which will lead the government, nominates brother Shehbaz as PM candidate and daughter Maryam for CM of Punjab province; party says it hopes the decisions would help the country come out of crises

Press Trust of India
ISLAMABAD

Pakistan's leading parties, minus jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan's party, on Tuesday announced that they will try to form a coalition government led by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz, ending speculation about the future form of the political set-up.

PML-N president Shehbaz Sharif has been nominated for the slot of Prime Minister of Pakistan by his party.

Taking to X, Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz spokesperson Marriyum Aurangzeb said PML-N supremo Nawaz Sharif, 74, has nominated his younger brother Shehbaz Sharif, 72, as candidate for the slot of Prime Minister and his daughter Maryam Nawaz, 50, for Chief Minister of Punjab province.

Deja vu: Pakistan's former Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif, centre, speaks at a press conference in Lahore on Tuesday. AP

"Nawaz Sharif has thanked the political parties which provided support to the PML-N (in forming the government) and expressed hope that through such decisions Pakistan will come out of crises," she said.

Mr. Shehbaz along with Asif Ali Zardari of Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) and Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui of Muttahida Qaumi Movement (MQM) met at the residence of Shujaat Hussain of Pakistan Muslim League-Quaid (PML-Q) after a consultative meeting.

'Thankful to allies'

"Today we have united to tell the nation that we all accept the split mandate. I am thankful to Zardari and Bilawal that they decided for their party to vote for the PML-N," he said.

To form a government, a party must win 133 seats out of 265 contested seats in the 266-member National Assembly.

The Election Commission of Pakistan has announced that Independent candidates, a majority of them supported by the PTI secured 101 seats, followed by Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz (PML-N) with 75 seats, Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) getting 54 seats, and Muttahida Qaumi Movement-Pakistan (MQM-P) bagging 17 seats.

Other parties got 17 seats while the result of one constituency was withheld.

Mr. Shehbaz said the new government would pull the cash-strapped country out of trouble.

Ethiopian forces massacred at least 45 civilians: rights body

Agence France-Presse
ADDIS ABABA

They were extrajudicially killed for supporting the ethnic Amhara militia known as Fano, it says

Ethiopia's government security forces killed at least 45 civilians in a massacre in Amhara state in late January, the independent state-affiliated Ethiopian Human Rights Commission (EHRC) said Tuesday.

A statement said the EHRC had confirmed "the identity of at least 45 civilians who were extrajudicially killed by government security forces" in the town of Merawi for allegedly supporting an ethnic Amhara militia known as Fano.

"However, it can be assumed that the number of victims is even higher," it underscored.

At least 15 other people, including women, were killed during a door-to-door search by government forces in a different part of Amhara earlier in the month, the EHRC said.

The killings in Merawi followed months of clashes last year between Ethiopia's military and Fano and prompted the United States last week to call for an investigation.

According to the EHRC, security forces also rounded up and arrested an unknown number of people in Merawi on suspicion of being members of Fano.

Thai ex-PM Thaksin to be freed from jail

Agence France-Presse
BANGKOK

Jailed former Thai Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra is to be freed, the government said on Tuesday, possibly as soon as the weekend – just six months after returning from 15 years of self-imposed exile.

The controversial billionaire, twice elected premier and ousted in a 2006 military coup, was jailed upon his return to Thailand in August for eight years on graft and abuse-of-power charges, but within days had his sentence cut to one year by King Maha Vajiralongkorn.

Justice Minister Tawee Sodsong said Tuesday that Mr. Thaksin, 74, would be among 930 prisoners granted early release.

"He is in the group where they are in a critical condition or aged over 70. He will be released after six months automatically," Tawee Sodsong told reporters.

His homecoming coincided with his Pheu Thai party returning to government in alliance with pro-military parties, leading many to conclude that an agreement had been struck to cut his jail time.

Talks open in Cairo for truce in Gaza

Reuters
CAIRO/JERUSALEM

Officials from the U.S., Egypt, Israel and Qatar were meeting in Cairo on Tuesday to try to agree a truce in Gaza as international calls grew for Israel to hold back on its planned assault on the Palestinian enclave's southern city of Rafah.

A million lives

More than one million displaced civilians are crammed into Rafah, many living in camps and makeshift shelters, having fled to there from Israeli bombardments in other areas of Gaza during more than four months of warfare.

Agony days: Palestinian children wait for food cooked by a charity kitchen in Rafah in the southern Gaza Strip on Tuesday. REUTERS

Israel says it wants to flush out Hamas militants from hideouts in Rafah and free Israeli hostages being held there, and is making plans to evacuate trapped Palestinian civilians. But no plan has been forthcoming and aid agencies say the displaced have nowhere else to go in the shattered territory.

Israeli tanks shelled the eastern sector of Rafah overnight, causing waves of panic, residents said.

Rafah neighbours Egypt but Cairo has made clear it will not allow a refugee exodus over the border.

133 new deaths

Gaza health officials announced 133 new Palestinian deaths in the past 24 hours, bringing the total to 28,473 killed and 68,146 wounded since Oct. 7.

Supplies of food, water and other essentials are running out and diseases are spreading in the densely populated enclave.

Around half of Gaza's 2.3 million people are now packed into Rafah, many of whom who fled other areas under fire.

U.S. Senate passes Ukraine aid Bill

Agence France-Presse
WASHINGTON

The U.S. Senate on Tuesday approved long-delayed funding for Ukraine's war effort, part of a foreign aid package that right-wing House Speaker Mike Johnson has indicated his Republican-led chamber will reject.

Republican and Democratic lawmakers have been negotiating the Bill for months, but strong opposition from likely Republican 2024 presidential nominee Donald Trump and his allies in Congress still threatens to sink it.

The $95 billion package includes funding for Israel's military and key strategic ally Taiwan, but the lion's share – $60 billion – would help Ukraine restock depleted ammunition supplies.

Biden's latest push

The legislation, which the Senate voted on early on Tuesday morning and which easily passed 70-29 with cross-party support, is the latest effort in a tortuous process to save U.S. President Joe Biden's policy of leading a Western response to the Russian attack on democratic Ukraine.

Sport

Netherlands and Australia register facile wins against Spain and Ireland

FIH PRO LEAGUE

Uthra Ganesan
BHUBANESWAR

The Dutchmen returned to winning ways with a 3-0 win against Spain in the FIH Pro League here on Tuesday in a game that was as much about patience as aggression.

Having lost the shootouts to India, the Dutch appeared determined to take full points from Tuesday's outing but avoided being too aggressive or attacking, content to sit tight and assess their opponents before attempting anything.

They took charge of the game but preferred to stick to their structure and a gradual build-up to squeeze Spain from both flanks. Despite trying everything, however, they could not break past the Spanish defence before Jip Janssen continued to accumulate goals, converting the Netherlands' second penalty corner seconds before the end of first quarter.

Hitman: Australia's Willott lines up to fire in one of his two goals against Ireland. BISWARANJAN ROUT

Spain stepped up in the second and even seemed to get level but the ball was shown to be deflected off Borja Lacalle's foot instead. A few half chances later, a Dutch counter saw Floris Middendorp display his 3D skills along the backline despite the presence of six Spanish defenders and give back to Duco Telgenkamp, who only had to lift into the net.

Australia maintained its winning record against Ireland with a 5-0 victory, Ky Willott scoring a brace in a game Australia dominated despite some spirited defensive work by Ireland.

The results: Australia 5 (Tom Craig 17, Jeremy Hayward 22, Ky Willott 25, 57, Nathan Ephraums 43) bt Ireland 0; Netherlands 3 (Jip Janssen 15, 51, Duco Telgenkamp 26) bt Spain 0.

Debutant Guarrotxena is Mumbai City's hero against East Bengal

ISL-10

Amitabha Das Sharma
KOLKATA

Mumbai City FC returned to winning ways as it downed host East Bengal by a solitary goal in a match-week 15 fixture of the ISL-10 at the Salt Lake Stadium here on Tuesday. Spanish striker Iker Guarrotxena made his debut for Mumbai memorable by finding the target in the 24th minute.

The visitor dominated the opening session with 71% ball possession and made a creditable 41 incursions in the attacking third. Despite having the control over the midfield, and making attacks at will, Mumbai failed to convert the advantage into more goals.

The finisher: Guarrotxena, executing a bicycle kick, was on target. PTI

The goal happened off a nicely coordinated move as the Spanish midfielder Alberto Noguera took a back-centre from Akash Mishra and tossed the ball in the East Bengal box to find Guarrotxena. The fellow-Spaniard striker, who was filling in for the Scottish forward Greg Stewart, nicely controlled the ball while shielding it from a couple of East Bengal defenders and finished with a tap-in to end the impasse.

East Bengal coach Carles Cuadrat, who opted for rotations initially by bringing in a few from the bench, made some changes in the roster after the break in an attempt to bring balance in the team's performance.

This helped the host gain some control over the proceedings but not enough to find the equaliser against a much better organised opposition.

The result:

East Bengal 0 lost to Mumbai City FC 1 (Guarrotxena 24).

NOT RULED OUT

It's not that you won't see rank turners going forward: Kuldeep

VIJAY SONEJI

India spinner Kuldeep Yadav on Tuesday said that rank turners might come into play in the ongoing Test battle against England but admitted that sporting tracks, like the ones seen in the first two games, are "good for cricket". "The fast bowlers also come into play, like in the last match. So (good wickets) are good for cricket".

RECOGNITION

Joseph and Hunter win ICC Player of the Month awards

AFP

Latest pace sensation Shamar Joseph on Tuesday became the first West Indian to win the Men's ICC Player of the Month award for his heroics in the Australia Test series. Ireland's explosive young batter Amy Hunter claimed the honour in the women's category after her dominance against Zimbabwe.

UP THE LADDER

Smriti climbs to the fourth spot among batters in one-dayers

EMMANUAL YOGINI

India opener Smriti Mandhana jumped two spots to grab the fourth position in the latest ICC Women's ODI Player Rankings for batters. The 27-year-old from Mumbai surpassed South Africa's Laura Wolvaardt, who slumped to fifth place after a lacklustre show in the ODI series against Australia.

THRILLING CONTEST

Patna Pirates claws its way back to pip Telugu Titans

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Patna Pirates showcased a stunning come-from-behind win to become the fifth team to qualify for the Pro Kabaddi League Season 10's playoffs as it clinched a 38-36 win over Telugu Titans in Kolkata on Tuesday. Manjeet starred for Pirates with 8 points, while Titans skipper Pawan Sehrawat's superb 16-point show went in vain.

India mainly has three selection issues to address

To persist with Bharat behind the wickets or hand Jurel his debut is a key call, while Sarfaraz is a front-runner in the race with Padikkal for middle-order; it's Kuldeep vs Axar if Jadeja is fit

Sweating it out: Wicketkeeper Jurel and the slip cordon of Patidar, Jaiswal and Sarfaraz had a rigorous training on Tuesday. VIJAY SONEJI

ENGLAND IN INDIA

Amol Karhadkar
RAJKOT

The third day is perceived to be the decisive one when a Test goes the distance. Similarly, the third Test is considered critical to the outcome of a five-match series. With the ongoing series squared one-game apiece heading into the third, all eyes will be at the proceedings at Khanderi over the next week.

With 13 of India's 17-member squad – barring opener Shubman Gill (resting at the hotel due to a slight discomfort), batter Devdutt Padikkal and the pace duo of Jasprit Bumrah and Akash Deep (all three yet to join the squad) – undergoing a gruelling training session on Tuesday afternoon, here is a look at the three primary questions that the team-management will have to address over the next two days.

The 'keeper choice

Ishan Kishan has not been considered. K.S. Bharat has been mediocre with the willow in the first two Tests closer to his home.

Behind the stumps, Bharat has only been adequate. Does it mean it's time India opts to look beyond Bharat and hand Dhruv Jurel a debut on Thursday?

On Tuesday, Jurel donned the keeper's gloves as the slip cordon – with Sarfaraz Khan at first slip, Yashasvi Jaiswal at second and Rajat Patidar at gully – took a fair number of catches against pace. Later in the sprawling nets area, both Jurel and Bharat had good batting stints.

Is it time for Jurel to be rewarded with a Test cap?

Sarfaraz set to debut?

Shreyas Iyer has been omitted. And K.L. Rahul is yet to be fully fit. As a result, Sarfaraz – domestic heavyweight – is obviously the first-in-waiting to be handed a debut cap.

Sarfaraz had two long stints in the nets on Tuesday, with captain Rohit Sharma complementing his Mumbai junior at times.

Logically, Sarfaraz being preferred over Devdutt Padikkal, the reserve specialist batter on a maiden Test call-up, looks likely.

But that will mean India will have Patidar – who made his debut last week – at No. 4 and another debutante at No. 5? Can the duo replicate their success in domestic cricket into the international arena?

The third spinner

Ravindra Jadeja had a long stint with the willow at the start of the training session at his home ground. The southpaw gently rolled him arm over for a very short time. But the Indian camp exuded confidence in the all-rounder being cleared match-fit.

Then, India will have to pick either Kuldeep Yadav's wrist-spin or Axar Patel's orthodox variety. As he displayed in Visakhapatnam, Kuldeep has the X-factor and can pick wickets even when the pitch isn't offering turn. Axar provides an additional batting option.

It will be interesting to see how captain Rohit Sharma and head coach Rahul Dravid resolve the combination issues.

Bazball approach makes a spinner more focused: Kuldeep

Amol Karhadkar
RAJKOT

Ollie Pope may have stressed that the use of the term Bazball is disallowed in the England group. But just like the rest of the cricketing group, India spinner Kuldeep Yadav is excited with England's new-found approach of adopting an ultra-aggressive strategy, especially while batting, in Test matches.

"Usually in Tests you are not used to teams attacking you with this kind of approach (Bazball), but it also involves you a lot more. As a spinner it makes you more focused on how you want to bowl and what your approach is," Kuldeep said here on Tuesday, ahead of India's third Test against England starting Thursday.

"Normally when you play Tests, you don't worry about batters attacking you, you are only focused on how you want to get them out. But here the approach is different, they are in attacking mode, so you also have to plan how to restrict them. When they play shots, you have many opportunities to take wickets. It's interesting. The last game was my first (against Bazball). I enjoyed it a lot, it's good for cricket."

Besides Bazball, the nature of the pitches – slow turners as opposed to rank turners that have been a common feature in Indian cricket of late – has also come as a pleasant surprise. Kuldeep indicated that the pitches have made the series an interesting contest.

"I haven't played on rank turners. I did not play in the last series (Border-Gavaskar series in February-March last year) at home. I do not know what our approach or thinking would be," he said when asked what sparked the change in strategy behind opting slow turners.

"It is basically the team-management's decision. Obviously, all of you also want to watch good cricket.

"Such wickets are important for witnessing good cricket."

Big challenge: With the England batters in attack mode, Ashwin & Co. have been forced to find a way to restrict them. VIJAY SONEJI

There's every chance England will play two seamers, says Pope

Back with the ball? Stokes rolled his arm over in the nets. VIJAY SONEJI

Sports Bureau
RAJKOT

Not once in the first two Tests has England opted to play with two pace-bowling options. England batter Ollie Pope indicated that the trend may change come Thursday.

"At the minute it looks like a pretty good pitch. It looks [there is] slightly more grass in it than the pitches before, but we always wait until we see the Indian team have a look at the pitch and then see if they want to put some more water on it or if they want to shave the grass off," Pope said after England's training on Tuesday morning.

While Pope told BBC Sport "every chance two seamers will be played," the plan reflected in England's preparation during its three-hour training session.

While Ollie Robinson bowled a long spell, Mark Wood – with a heavily strapped left leg – bowled the longest spell by an England pacer, indicating either of them will pair up with James Anderson.

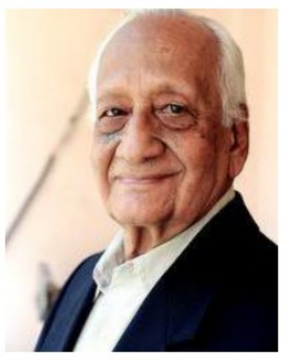
While Anderson is five wickets shy of 700 Test wickets, the third Test will definitely be a milestone moment for England as its captain Ben Stokes is set to become the 16th cricketer to play 100 Tests for the country.

Pope paid a glowing tribute to the all-rounder. "For anyone to play 100 Tests is an unbelievable achievement. He has obviously had his highs and lows in his career, but what he has done since he has been captain has been amazing and there's so many sort of special moments that you can look back on his career and think, 'Jesus, the guy has sort of probably changed the game a lot in a lot of respects'," Pope said.

"He obviously takes it to a new level when all the pressure is on him. The amount of times he has done that over his career, with 99 Tests so far, is unbelievable. It's been great to watch. Hopefully there's much more success."

Former India skipper Dattajirao Gaekwad passes away

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI



Dattajirao Krishnarao Gaekwad. VIJAY SONEJI

India's oldest Test cricketer and former captain Dattajirao Gaekwad passed away in Vadodara on Tuesday due to age-related ailments. Dattajirao, father of former India opener and National coach Aunshuman Gaekwad, was 95.

He played 11 Tests for India between 1952 and 1961, captaining the national team in 1959 when it toured England.

The right-hander made his debut against England at Leeds in 1952 and his final international game was against Pakistan in Chennai in 1961.

In the Ranji Trophy, Gaekwad represented Baroda from 1947 to 1961. He scored 3139 runs at an average of 47.56, including 14 hundreds. His highest was a 249 not out against Maharashtra in the 1959-60 season.

He became India's oldest living Test cricketer in 2016 after the death of former batter Deepak Shodhan at the age of 87 in Ahmedabad.

An easy day in the office for Sumit Nagal

BENGALURU OPEN

N. Sudarshan
BENGALURU

Sumit Nagal made a confident start to his dafaNews Bengaluru Open campaign, beating France's Geoffrey Blancaneaux 6-2, 6-2 at the KSLTA courts inside Cubbon Park here on Tuesday.

The 26-year-old, who broke into the ATP top 100 after last week's triumph in Chennai, is a former champion in the Garden City, having won the Challenger in 2017. And the World No. 98 played like he knew the conditions like the back of his hand.

Bengaluru's altitude doesn't really aid flat and aggressive stroke-making, and Nagal, thus, hit with high net-clearance and at the same time imparted enough spin to drag the ball back in and keep it in play.

There were no short balls for Blancaneaux to attack, and the depth was such that he was mostly pinned a good two feet behind the baseline. Nagal broke in the first and seventh games of the first set and took it 6-2 when Blancaneaux sent a backhand long.

In the second stanza, Blancaneaux tried to hit through the court, charged in on occasion and even took up aggressive court positions at times to rattle Nagal. But the Indian, cheered on by a sizeable crowd revelling in the cool evening conditions, was up to the task, forcing the Frenchman to cut an exasperated figure.

A break each in the first and fifth games of the second set proved enough, and Nagal finished the job with a powerful wide serve on the ad court that Blancaneaux returned wide.

Elsewhere, former World No. 17 Bernard Tomic wilted under the afternoon sun, crashing out 3-6, 6-3, 6-3 to American Tristan Boyer. But the tournament's other top draw, former World No. 25 Vasek Pospisil, lived to fight another day, coming through 7-6(2), 3-6, 6-4 against Ukraine's Eric Vanshelboim.

Other results (first round):

Singles: Enrico Dalla Valle (Ita) bt Evgeny Donskoy (Rus) 6-2, 7-5; Luca Nardi (Ita) bt Dan Added (Fra) 3-6, 6-3, 7-6(0); Coleman Wong (Hkg) bt Raphael Collignon (Bel) 6-4, 7-6(4); Seong Chan Hong (Kor) bt Tristan Schoolkate (Aus) 6-4, 6-3; Benjamin Bonzi (Fra) bt Philip Sekulic (Aus) 6-3, 6-2; Oriol Roca Batalla (Esp) bt Chun Hsin-Tseng (Tpe) 7-5, 6-3; Alexey Zakharov (Rus) bt Samuel Vincent Ruggeri (Ita) 6-2, 7-5; Maks Kasnikowski (Pol) bt Tung-Lin Wu (Tpe) 7-5, 6-2.

Doubles: Jakob Schnaitte & Mark Wallner (Ger) bt Sriram Balaji & Begemann (Ger) 3-6, 6-4, [12-10]; Bittoun Kouzmine & Maxime Janvier (Fra) bt Sai Karteek Reddy Ganta & Manish Sureshkumar 6-2, 7-6(8).

Untroubled: Nagal used his knowledge of playing in Bengaluru to coast past Blancaneaux. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Kishan asked to play a few Ranji games

Press Trust of India
MUMBAI

Jharkhand wicketkeeper-batter Ishan Kishan's reluctance to play First Class cricket and focus only on the IPL could prompt the BCCI to make a minimum number of Ranji Trophy games mandatory for players in order to be eligible for the cash-rich league's lucrative auction pool.

It has been learnt that the BCCI brass has already instructed Kishan to play Jharkhand's last group league game against Rajasthan in Jamshedpur, starting on February 16.

The manner in which Kishan skipped match after match after returning midway through the South Africa tour citing "travel fatigue" hasn't gone down well with the Indian cricket establishment.

OPPORTUNITIES

HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT • JOBS • TECHNOLOGY

Intent to hire fresh talent up by 6%

Career Outlook Report by TeamLease notes that e-commerce and technology start-ups top the table of industries keen on inducting freshers into their workforce

Opportunities Desk

The intent to have freshers on the payroll has witnessed a 6% increase in HY1 of 2024 as compared to the corresponding period in 2023 (68% vs 62%). Career Outlook Report for the first half of 2024, released by TeamLease EdTech, notes this positive hiring intent for freshers is part of an overall sentiment that evokes a sense of enthusiasm about the Indian job market as a whole.

The report notes hiring intent for all categories of job seekers has risen marginally to 79.3%.

As per the report, the top three industries with the highest hiring intent for freshers are e-commerce and technology start-ups (55%), engineering and infrastructure (53%), and telecommunications (50%).

The IT industry sees an overall decrease in the intent to hire freshers compared to Career Outlook Report for HY2 of 2023 (42% in HY1 of 2024 vs 49% in HY2 of 2023).

Sectors like media and entertainment have seen a decrease of 3%, while travel and hospitality with an increase of 4% (HY1 of 2024 vs HY2 of 2023).

Roles such as graphic designer, legal associate, chemical engineer and digital marketing executive are in high demand across industries for freshers.

Bengaluru leads the way with a hiring intent of 69%, followed by Mumbai at 58% and Chennai at 51%

Top skills

Natural language processing (NLP), mobile app development, Internet of Things (IoT), Robotic Process Automation (RPA) and metaverse were listed among the domain skills in demand.

Among cities, Bengaluru leads the way with a hiring intent of 69%, followed by Mumbai at 58% and Chennai at 51%. Delhi at 45% has seen an increase of 2% from HY2 of 2023. However, the demand for newer talent currently stands at 68%, a marginal increase of 3% for HY1 of 2024 over HY2 of 2023.

GenAI and jobs

The report emphasises the need for continuous learning and adaptability as freshers enter an era of continuous technological advancement powered by Generative AI. Roles such as software developers, technical writers, legal assistants, market research analysts, and graphic designers are expected to be transformed. Freshers need to proactively upgrade their skills and be open to working alongside Generative AI to remain relevant and harness its potential, says the report

The survey covered 526 small, medium, and large companies across 18 industries in India, covering metros, tier-1 and tier-2.

In a release, Shantanu Rooj, founder and CEO, TeamLease EdTech, said, "Employers played the conservative card for sometime now; hiring had slowed down amidst global turmoil. However, our recent survey reveals employer confidence in India's growth story. Organisations are more confident about their future paths, which reflects in their high confidence to recruit fresh talent and strengthen their talent pool."

Neeti Sharma, co-founder and president of TeamLease EdTech, said, "It is interesting to see industries like manufacturing, engineering and infrastructure, and construction and real estate prioritising apprenticeship to locate the most suitable talent. By proactively hiring degree apprentices, companies can systematically address persistent skill gaps, nurture specialised talent and strengthen their talent pipelines tailored to precise industry requirements."

Snapshot of a job fair in Thiruvananthapuram.
FILE PHOTO: MAHINSHA S

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Women employees in tech sector seek more meaningful DEI efforts

Opportunities Desk

GETTY IMAGES/ ISTOCK PHOTO

Over 90% of women employed in the technology sector feel organisations are not taking concrete steps to fulfill their commitment to gender diversity. Around 70% of women employees believe the tech sector currently uses diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) as a marketing tool.

This data is based on observations by women employees from India participating in a survey on 'Women in Tech' commissioned by Talent500, along with ANSR, an organisation that establishes Global Capability Centres (GCCs).

Over 3000 women in tech in India were part of the survey that aimed to provide crucial insights into the experiences and viewpoints of women in the industry.

Diversity is ineffective unless companies actively cultivate an environment where novel ideas and practices can surface and be embraced, says the report.

It cites the examples of a leading Canadian sports apparel brand and its commitment to gender diversity. The company has the distinction of being the only corporate Fortune 500 entity with over 50% female representation at both the board and CXO levels. This culture extends to its GCC in India, with 40% female workforce composition, significantly surpassing the national average of 21%, says the report.

Biases at work

About 45% of the respondents reported encountering gender stereotypes during their interview experiences. Another facet of the survey explores this avenue deeper, where 45% felt that this phenomenon is further encouraged by non-diverse hiring panels that contribute to biased recruitment processes.

Other forms of discrimination include pay, representation, recognition and opportunities.

Specifically, 42% of the respondents perceive inequity in pay, while 60% feel marginalised in decision-making processes. Additionally, 30% of the participants believe their technical abilities are undervalued compared to their male peers. Despite 75% expressing ambitions for leadership roles, only a meagre 20% see sufficient representation of women in senior positions, says the report.

Other key findings

Work-Life Balance: 90% seek access to mental health resources, while 80% value flexible work arrangements and family-friendly policies.

Mentorship and Upskilling: 81% demand career guidance, and 80% express interest in upskilling.

Leadership Aspirations: 75% express aspirations for leadership roles, highlighting the desire for greater inclusivity.

Diversity Narratives: 72% stress the importance of breaking down leadership stereotypes for a more inclusive future.

Limited Voice at the Table: 65% express that they do not have a voice at the decision-making table.

Professional Training Gap: A significant 57% state a lack of access to professional training opportunities exists.

Extra Effort to Prove Themselves: 42% feel the need to work harder to prove themselves in the workplace.

'India ranks seventh among nations facing talent shortage'

Employers are adopting various strategies to attract and retain talent, including offering increased work flexibility (86%), exploring new talent avenues (47%) and raising wages (36%)

Four in five employers report difficulty in finding talent in 2024, says the latest ManpowerGroup Employment Outlook Survey. While this represents a marginal increase of -1 percentage point year-over-year, it remains nearly double compared to the figures from 2021, highlighting a sustained struggle in talent acquisition, says the report.

India ranks seventh among nations facing talent shortages, with 81% of the employers reporting difficulty finding skilled talent.

Industries such as transport, logistics and automotive (88%), followed closely by the Information Technology sector (87%), are among the most affected by talent shortages. Employers are adopting various strategies to attract and retain talent, including offering increased work flexibility (86%), exploring new talent avenues (47%) and raising wages (36%).

Organisations are also re-evaluating their benefits packages to remain competitive. However, amidst these challenges, employers are also grappling with the need to adapt to emerging trends and technologies.

The top five most in-demand skills in India include IT and data, sales and marketing, engineering, operations and logistics and HR.

Challenges associated with AI adoption also loom large on the horizon, with employers citing difficulties in attracting candidates for AI roles, training existing staff and defining suitable roles to leverage AI technology effectively.

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Kothamangalam 14.02.2024
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GENERAL

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GENERAL

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Applications are invited from Industry Professionals, Experienced in Design / Development / Research for teaching positions in the following areas:

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a) **Computer Science and Engineering - 01CSE2024**
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b) **Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning - 01AIM2024**
(Natural Language Processing | Robotics | Deep Learning | Reinforcement Learning | Computer Vision | Explainable AI | Healthcare AI | Generative Adversarial Networks | Edge AI | AI/ML Applications)

c) **Data Science and Cyber Security - 01DSC2024**
(Artificial Intelligence | Machine Learning | Deep Learning | Cognitive Computing | Data Science | Data Visualization | Data Engineering |Data Structures and Algorithms | Full Stack Development | Augmented Reality | Virtual Reality | Cyber Security | Block Chain | Ethical Hacking | Natural Language Processing | IoT | Edge Computing | Android / IOS Development | Embedded Systems | Quantum Computing | Robotics)

Essential: Ph.D. with first class in B.E. / B.Tech. & M.E. / M.Tech.

2) SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

a) **Aerospace Engineering - 01ASE2024**
(Space Dynamics | Computational Fluid Dynamics)

b) **Biomedical Engineering - 01BME2024**
(Biosignal Processing | Medical Instrumentation | Healthcare Embedded Systems)

Essential: Ph.D. with first class in B.E. / B.Tech. & M.E. / M.Tech.

3) SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES

a) **Biotechnology - 01BIT2024**
(General Biotechnology | Health Care | Bioinformatics | Cancer Research | Medical Biotechnology | Stem Cell)

Essential: Ph.D. with first class in B.E. / B.Tech. & M.E. / M.Tech.

b) **Agriculture - 01AGR2024**
(Agricultural Meteorology | Genetics & Plant Breeding | Horticulture (Fruit Science) | Agriculture Extension | Soil Science & Agriculture Chemistry | Food Science & Nutrition | Agricultural Statistics | Veterinary Science & Animal Husbandry)

Essential: Ph.D. with first class in B.Sc. (Agriculture / Horticulture) & M.Sc. in the appropriate branch / B.V.Sc. & A.H. and M.V.Sc.

4) SCHOOL OF SCIENCES, ARTS AND MEDIA

a) **Forensic Science – 01PSF2024**
(Forensic Serology | Forensic Ballistics | Forensic Biology | Forensic Toxicology)

b) **Digital Sciences - 01DIS2024**
(Artificial Intelligence | Data Science | Cyber Security | Cyber Forensics)

Essential: First class in Master's Degree with Ph.D.

Professor of Practice – Distinguished experts from various fields such as Engineering, Science, Technology, Entrepreneurship, Management, Chartered Accountancy (CA), Commerce, Media, Civil Services, Armed Forces, Legal Profession and Public Administration, at least 15 years of service / experience, preferably at a senior level.

Professor - A minimum of 15 years of experience in teaching / industry / research as evidenced by research papers in reputed journals / patents of which at least 5 years should be in teaching at the level of Professor. (Retired Professors can also apply).

Associate Professor - A minimum of 12 years of experience in teaching / industry / research as evidenced by research papers in reputed journals / patents.

Assistant Professor - A minimum of 5 years of experience in teaching / industry / research as evidenced by research papers in reputed journals / patents.

II Director / HODs Positions

a) **Director (School of Liberal Arts) – 05SLA2024**
Ph.D. Qualification in any one of Liberal Arts Streams such as Natural Sciences / Social Sciences / Arts / Humanities from a reputed University in India / Abroad. Minimum 15 years of Academic / Administrative Experience in the position of Dean / Principal of an Academic Institution offering Liberal Arts. Candidates should have expertise in Academic Institution Building.

b) **HOD (Physical Education) – 05PED2024**
Ph.D. in Physical Education or Sports Science with minimum ten years of experience as a Director of Physical Education in a University or College. Should have represented the University or College at the inter-university/inter-collegiate competitions or the state and/or national championships. Having evidences of conducting competitions/coaching camps/tournaments, evidence of having produced sportsmen/women. Post Ph.D. publications and guiding Ph.D. students is highly desirable. Candidates who have cleared NET / SLET / SET can also apply.

c) **Head (Business Ventures) – 05BVS2024**
MBA Degree with substantial experience in business development, strategic planning and project management. Proven track record of successfully launching and managing business ventures. Excellent analytical and problem-solving abilities with expertise in Strategic Planning, Market Analysis, Feasibility Analysis, Financial Management, Risk Management, Performance Monitoring, Regulatory Compliance, Problem Solving, Sustainability and Social Responsibility.

d) **HOD (Music) – 05MUS2024**
Qualified candidates with experience and ability to train, teach, develop curriculum, organize, conduct choirs, bands, solo performances and individual musical performances in all realms of music.

III Group Chair Positions

Dynamic leader with proven experience and track record in industry / academia / R&D / extension activities. Capable of creating impactful teams in the relevant groups. The candidate will hold doctorate with more than 20 years of experience in technologies and practices. Publications, patents, and significant project execution either in the private or government sector will be highly desirable. Capability to connect with funding agencies desirable.

a) **Group Chair : Sustainable Energy – 05GCS2024**
Lead result-oriented initiatives, drive a green energy revolution on campus, spearhead innovative projects, and implement renewable solutions. Has expertise in sustainable energy with commitment towards cultivating a campus-wide culture of sustainability.

b) **Group Chair : Food – 05GCF2024**
Lead transformative research and innovation in food processing technologies and agricultural practices. Food innovations, nutritional requirements and sustainable practices that connect academia with industry will be of prime focus.

c) **Group Chair : Healthcare – 05GCH2024**
Elevate healthcare innovations and product development within an academic setting well-rounded experience in dealing with different facets of healthcare, namely, medical devices, stem cell research, indigenous and herbal medicine, nanotechnology for healthcare, bacteriology and vaccinology.

d) **Group Chair : Water – 05GCW2024**
Lead a group working in the technology missions in this focal area of distinctiveness of the University, in all the domains of water. Knowledge in application of modern technologies and tools, namely, RS / GIS, isotopes, sensors, AI, IoT and drones.

IV Karunya Hospitals

a) **Consultants - 11KHS2024**
Full time (Minimum 3 years' experience)
General Surgery : MS (General Surgery) / DNB
General Medicine : MD (General Medicine) / DNB
Obstetrics & Gynecology : MD / MS (Obstetrics & Gynecology) / D.G.O
Pediatrics : MD / D.C.H / DNB (Pediatrics)
Anesthesia : MD / DA / DNB (Anesthesia)

b) **Staff Nurse - 12KHS2024**
B.Sc. (N) / GNM graduates with considerable experience in Emergency Medicine, Operation Theater and other Critical Care areas.
M.Sc. (Medical - Surgical Nursing | Pediatrics | Community Medicine) with considerable service

c) **Pharmacist - 13KHS2024**
Registered Pharmacists, qualified in D.Pharm / B.Pharm having good experience in running the pharmacy with thorough knowledge in Stocking and Dispensing of drugs.

Eligible candidates are requested to apply online:
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BG-BGE

INBRIEF

De Swardt and von Berg lead Proteas' recovery

All-rounders Ruan de Swardt, *left in pic*, and Shaun von Berg led a South African rearguard action on Tuesday as it recovered to 220 for six after New Zealand had dominated the start of the second Test in Hamilton. De Swardt reached his maiden half-century (55 batting) at stumps on day one, while von Berg was unbeaten on 34 on his Test debut, with the pair having added for 70 off 27 overs. The tourists, who won the toss, were 64 for three at lunch and 150 for six early in the final session.

The scores: South Africa 220/6 in 89 overs (Raynard van Tonder 32, D. Bedingham 39, Ruan de Swardt batting 55, Shaun von Berg batting 34, Rachin Ravindra 3/33) vs New Zealand. **Toss:** South Africa.

Sportscast India to broadcast England-Asia Cup 2024

SportsCast India, in association with the Indian Indoor Sports Federation, will show the England-Asia Cup 2024 indoor cricket tournament to be played at U-Pro Colombo live on its YouTube channel. Teams from India, England, Sri Lanka, Singapore and UAE will take part in the competition to be played from April 10-18, 2024.

Rutherford, Russell set up WI's win; Aussies clinch series

Andre Russell and Sherfane Rutherford put on the biggest sixth-wicket partnership in a T20I to steer the West Indies past Australia by 37 runs in the third and final clash in Perth on Tuesday. Both cracked half-centuries to propel the visitors to 220 for six with Australia managing just 183 for five in reply. David Warner top-scored with 81 in his last appearance for Australia at home.

The scores: West Indies 220/6 in 20 overs (Roston Chase 37, Sherfane Rutherford 67 n.o., Andre Russell 71, Xavier Bartlett 2/37) bt Australia 183/5 in 20 overs (David Warner 81, Tim David 41 n.o., Romario Shepherd 2/31, Chase 2/19). **PoM:** Russell. **PoS:** Warner. *Australia wins series 2-1.*

Athletes Rachna Kumari and Nirmala Sheoran suspended

The Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) has suspended hammer thrower Rachna Kumari for 12 years for a second anti-doping rule violation. Rachna returned positive results for multiple anabolic androgenic steroids in samples collected out of competition at Patiala on September 24 and on November 1 at the National Games last year. Rachna had earlier served a four-year suspension from 2015 to 2019. Her current suspension has begun from November 24 last. In another doping case, quartermiler Nirmala Sheoran has been handed an eight-year suspension by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) for a second doping violation. She reportedly tested positive for anabolic androgenic steroids and testosterone.

Ganemat and Munek place 14th in mixed skeet

The pair of Ganemat Sekhon and Munek Battula shot 140 and placed 14th in mixed skeet in the Shotgun World Cup in Rabat on Monday. The other Indian team of Areeba Khan and Abhay Singh Sekhon shot 134 for the 19th spot. Earlier, in men's skeet, Sheeraz Sheikh scored 120 out of 125 and missed the final by one point. He placed 11th, after shooting 24 in each of the five rounds. Abhay Singh (116) and Munek Battula (109) were 32nd and 62nd respectively. In women's skeet, Ganemat Sekhon shot 114 for the 12th spot.

Arjun Prasad on top in PGTI Players' Championship

Delhi golfer Arjun Prasad scored an exceptional eight-under 62 to take sole lead in the first round of the Tata Steel PGTI Players' Championship in Kolkata on Tuesday. Defending champion Sachin Baisoya was a shot behind in second place.

The scores (first round): **62**-Arjun Prasad; **63**-Sachin Baisoya; **64**-Stepan Danek, Udayan Mane, Karan Pratap Singh, Mohammad Sanju; **65**-Manav Bais, Anirudh Kamireddypalli, Mani Ram, Samarth Dwivedi, Rahil Gangjee, Manu Gandas.

Ranji Trophy has produced some scintillating finishes this season

Quite a few matches have seen fortunes swing wildly every day in different conditions, the latest being the Tamil Nadu-Karnataka contest

Charm of the game: Karnataka has been involved in a few humdingers. VIJAY SONEJI

Close encounters

- Haryana bt Saurashtra by **four wickets** (Group A, Round 2, Rajkot)
- Gujarat bt Karnataka by **six runs** (Group C, Round 2, Ahmedabad)
- J&K bt Odisha by **two wickets** (Group D, Round 3, Cuttack)
- Karnataka bt Tripura by **29 runs** (Group C, Round 4, Agartala)
- Uttar Pradesh bt Mumbai by **two wickets** (Group B, Round 4, Mumbai)
- Delhi bt Uttarakhand by **seven runs** (Group D, Round 4, Mohali)
- Services bt Haryana by **one run** (Group A, Round 5, Rohtak)
- Karnataka bt Railways by **one wicket** (Group C, Round 5, Surat)
- Tamil Nadu **drew with Karnataka** (Group C, Round 6, Chennai)
- J&K bt Pondicherry by **19 runs** (Group D, Round 6, Puducherry)

CRICKET

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

The current edition of Ranji Trophy has produced pulsating encounters that bring out the game's unique charm in its traditional format.

Some of these matches have seen fortunes swinging wildly for the teams every day in conditions ranging from rank-turners to green tops and everything in between across the length and breadth of the country.

On Monday, traditional rivals Tamil Nadu and Karnataka were locked in one of the most thrilling matches of the season at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium – a venue famed for classic contests – with all three results possible till the last over of the game before it ended in a draw on the fourth and final day.

After conceding a 215-run lead, TN looked down and out at the start of the day, chasing 355 on a pitch that had plenty of help for the spinners.

However, session by session, TN kept chipping away at the target and suddenly looked in a good position to go for a win before the Karnataka bowlers managed to stop the home team from crossing the finish line.

Roller-coaster ride

From trying to salvage a point at the start of the day to being disappointed with just one point and not getting the full six, it was a roller-coaster ride for Tamil Nadu.

In a league where every point matters, it could prove decisive.

Like the Southern Derby, there have been several close encounters this season over the first six rounds.

Karnataka itself has been part of two more such games. Against Gujarat, Mayank Agarwal's side took a 110-run lead and needed the same to chase down in the final innings.

It was cruising at 50 for no loss before suffering a spectacular collapse to get bowled out for 103 and lost the match by seven runs.

In the game against Railways, Karnataka was chasing 226 and looked in deep trouble at 133 for seven before Manish Pandey and V. Vyshak's 64-run eighth wicket partnership got the innings back on track. Pandey then farmed the strike to knock off the last 12 runs along with No. 11 batter V. Koushik.

A day before TN and Karnataka battled it out, a little farther away from Chennai, Pondicherry and Jammu & Kashmir played out a thriller of a different kind in a low-scoring encounter on a rank-turner.

Conceding a 66-run lead in such games can be a handicap, but J&K successfully defended 87 runs against the hosts to win by 19 runs to keep its qualification hopes alive.

A few weeks ago, up north in Rohtak, Services and Haryana played the closest game of the season to date.

Low-scoring match

In a match that saw no team cross 150, Services off-spinner Pulkit Narang and left-arm spinner Arjun Sharma's five-wicket hauls in the last innings helped their side defend a target of 145 by the slimmest of margins – just one run.

United World Wrestling lifts the suspension on Wrestling Federation of India

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

The United World Wrestling (UWW) on Tuesday lifted the suspension on the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) with immediate effect, asking it adhere to certain conditions related to athletes' welfare.

Now the Indian wrestlers, who had to compete under the UWW flag during the suspension period, will be able to compete under the National flag in UWW events.

UWW had provisionally suspended the WFI on August 23 last after the National federation failed to hold its elections in time owing to the wrestlers' protest against former president Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh.

The UWW Bureau, which met on February 9, decided to lift the suspension under the following conditions:

"The WFI has to re-convene the elections of its Athletes' Commission. The candidates for this commission shall be active athletes or retired for no longer than four years. The voters shall be exclusively athletes.

"These elections shall take place during trials or any senior national championships where this operation can take place, but no later than July 1, 2024," said the UWW in a statement.

The UWW asked the WFI not to discriminate against the protesting wrestlers, particularly the leading trio of Bajrang Punia, Vinesh Phogat and Sakshi Malik.

Chelsea snatches a last-gasp win

EURO LEAGUES

Reuters
LONDON

Chelsea came from behind to beat Crystal Palace 3-1 thanks to added time goals from Conor Gallagher and Enzo Fernandez in the Premier League on Monday.

The results:

Premier League: Crystal Palace 1 (Lerma 30) lost to Chelsea 3 (Gallagher 47, 90+1, Fernandez 90+4).

LaLiga: Almeria 0 drew with Athletic Bilbao 0.

Serie A: Juventus 0 lost to Udinese 1 (Giannetti 25).

Isha, Umamahesh win junior mixed air rifle gold

Sports Bureau

Isha Taksale and Umamahesh Maddineni beat fellow Indians Anvii Rathod and Abhinav Shah 16-8 for the junior mixed air rifle gold in the World Cup in Granada on Tuesday.

Isha and Umamahesh had earlier won the individual air rifle gold in the junior women and junior men sections respectively.

India was on top of the table with three gold, two silver and two bronze.

The results: Junior 10m air rifle: Men: 1. Umamahesh Maddineni 628.1 (252.1), 2. Parth Mane 629.6 (250.6), 3. Ajay Malik 229.0 (627.1).
Women: 1. Isha Taksale 251.8 (630.9), 2. Gwenllian Thorne (GBr) 249.7 (614.6), 3. Shambhavi Kshirsagar 227.6 (627.9); 4. Anvii Rathod 205.4 (626.8).
Mixed: 1. India (Isha, Umamahesh) 16 (627.4), 2. India-2 (Anvii, Abhinav Shaw) 8 (629.0); 3. Britain 16 (616.8).
Mixed junior air pistol: 1. Georgia-B 17 (572), 2. Georgia 9 (577), 3. Spain 16 (561); 6. India 560 (Drishti Sangwan, Paras Khola).

Crack shots: Umamahesh and Isha with their reward. ISSF

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

United FC Kodagu posts win

United FC Kodagu edged out KempFC Juniors 2-1 in the KSFA women's 'A' division football league here on Tuesday.

The results: United FC Kodagu 2 (K. Aishwarya 3, Dhanashri Kadam 10) bt Kemp FC Juniors 1 (R. Shobha 40).

Jawahar Union has it easy

Jawahar Union FC took out Gajanana FC 3-1 in the BDFA 'A' division football league here on Tuesday.

The results: Jawahar Union FC 3 (T. Stephen 57, 58, Prateek Kashyap 64) bt Gajanana FC 1 (K. Srinivasan 32); RWF FC 1 (S. Yogith 61) bt BTM FC 0; Bangalore Eagles FC 6 (Yokshim Wunghi 23, 33, Maiya Ningshem 52, Sanjay Prasad 72, Sanjay Kumar 76, Vishnu Vardhan 80) bt Blitz FC 0.

LIVE TELECAST

Sri Lanka vs Afghanistan: 3rd ODI, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2.30 p.m.

ISL: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App, 7.30 p.m.

PKL: Star Sports 2 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 8 p.m.

Serie A: Sports 18-1 (SD & HD) & Jio Cinema App,11.30 p.m.

Champions League: Sony Sports Ten 1, 2 & 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 1.30 a.m. (Thursday)

New Zealand vs South Africa: 2nd Test, day 3, Prime Video, 3.30 a.m. (Thursday)

The way things fit together is the essence of good selection

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

As India prepare for a Test match with possibly their least experienced middle-order ever, it might be worth looking at what constitutes good team selection.

Selectors are like wicket-keepers, remembered only when they make mistakes. Success or failure of their job is judged on whether the team wins or loses. In the former case, selections seem inevitable; in the latter, ill-advised.

As in life, however, you can do the right thing and get the wrong result (and vice versa). Theoretically, AI can select a team entirely by algorithm, but the process will lack important human qualities: imagination, creativity and unpredictability. Two of the most intelligent writers on the game have given us two fine notions of a cricket team, stressing its essential variety.

The great England captain Mike Brearley wrote in his classic on captaincy that "Unlike a rowing eight, a cricket eleven works only by dint of differentiation." Expanding on the 'Lego' theory of selection, Ed Smith, former England player and selector, said in a recent book that "the way things fit together is at least as important as the pieces themselves."

Not an exact science

Selection cannot be an exact science; there are too many variables from differing match conditions to untested mental abilities of the players. And luck, of course.

India go into the middle Test of an important series with just five players who are certainties: skipper Rohit Sharma, his opening partner Yashasvi Jaiswal, and Shubhman Gill at the top. Lower down the order Ravichandran Ashwin and Jasprit Bumrah. As I write this, Ravindra Jadeja hasn't been declared fit to play while two wicketkeepers in the squad makes it seem like there is some uncertainty there too.

The idea of resting Bumrah (which might be a good idea for his IPL team, not so good for the national team) doesn't make sense now. Not everything is the selectors' fault, of course. India are without their two best batters, Virat Kohli and K.L. Rahul. In the second half of the order the choice is less troubling. If Jadeja is fit, he bats at No. 6, leaving the two higher slots to Rajat Patidar, Devdutt Padikkal or Sarfaraz Khan who have played one Test among them.

The selectors' reluctance to recall Cheteshwar Pujara, 36, is understandable given their process and its emphasis on looking forward. But this is the kind of unpredictable call that – however embarrassing to the selectors – would have been in the team interest.

Rajkot is Pujara's home ground, he is in outstanding form and, as Ed Smith points out in his book, every good process needs a good anti-process. "That paradox," he says, "is central to good decision-making." It is for such choices that you do not outsource team selection to machines.

On the other hand, the youngsters picked for the middle order might be the success stories of the Test. But from this end of the event, a tried and tested player who is in form would be a choice both logical and unpredictable, a rare combination that says something about team selection.

After all, when England won the first Test, it was a debutant who made the difference while in the second, a 22-year-old scored a double century for India in an innings where no one else made 35.

I suspect choices in the IPL marry the two crucial elements, machine algorithm and human intuition, when making decisions. The 'Lego' effect is stronger in this format too. A team is more than merely the sum of its parts, it is the product of the interaction of these parts.

Some of these ideas have been taken on board by the national selectors, and Indian teams have done well as a result. But often the changes were forced on them owing to injury or players' unavailability. And since that is what is happening now, the unconventional might carry the day.

The best selectors follow the football great Johan Cryuff's dictum: "Choose the best player for every position, and you'll end up not with a strong XI, but 11 strong 1s." It is the "way of fitting together" that is the essence of good selection. That is why a left-handed batter sometimes gets preference over a right-hander with a better record, or an unusual type of bowler is preferred over a traditional one. The unconventional is often the selectors' calling card.